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THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

Daily Commercial

Illness U. S. Senator.

gfield correspondent of the Chicago ys: The Senatorial contest does not nterest, and the friends of both Palmer ituli are sanguine. There is no doubt d—that a clear and decided majority members of the Legisla- vidually prefer General Palmer, and hat some deem "instructions," there no doubt of the result. Circumstances hanged since the conventions were d resolutions of instruction were so passed in most instances, that many listend to ignore them altogether- cumbles the "saber second thought" ed a revocation of instructions for l. The outside pressure for Palmer is ng, particularly on the part of the soi-

lity of Telegraph Companies.

rew, an oyster dealer in Detroit, has ived $207 90, as follows: About a year legraphed to Baltimore for a quantity to be shipped to him at once. The was designed in transmission, and in nce the oysters did not reach here until price had greatly declined. Carew the company to recover as damages ence between what the oysters would e worth to him had they come in re- ble message, as he expected, and what e worth when they did come. Under ge of the court the jury brought in a warding him the damages claimed,

Ruge Swindle.

pany of swindlers, operating from De- e published a large amount of worth- ks, and other paper, in Canada and the States. Brokers at Windsor, Port ondon, Hamilton, Toronto and in fact l the larger cities in the Provinces and ed States, have been bitten, each to the $1,000 and upwards. It is estimated, long the Swindlers have obtained be 0,000 and $50 000, and unless the swindle d immediately, there is no telling how ore will be obtained. The whole affair the most adroitly arranged confidence on record, and the only wonder is ddest men have been found simple o accept one solitary check of the bogus on.

A Nice Little Estate.

mpany of United States citizens who chased Lower California of Juarez are take possession of their little "tract of which contains only about forty six l eight hundred square miles! Among me who have largely invested in this h enterprise are Gen Butler, August , Caleb Cushing, Ben. Holliday, George Leonard W. Jerome and Robert J.

The area of chaliant but pureuase is just large as the State of New York, and the is said to be exceedingly rich in gold r mines.

No Seats and Half Fares

New York Legislature a bill was intro- at touches an evil much complained of. regard to the system of forcing passen- railway cars who are not provided with ay full fare. Mr. Wagstaff's bill pro- t all passengers on the several railroads tate shall only pay half the usual fare vided with seats by the railroad com- and that if a passenger shall buy his k ticket, agent or conductor, and then seat provided, he shall recover back the re paid by section.

UAL PROGRESS.—The convention of usetts Spiritualists, held in Boston this opened an astounding declaration of s:

the spiritual unity of nature. Second, ation, equality and universality of law, he spirituality of society. Sixth, the unity of the sexes and the moral in- f sexism. Fifth, the harmony of pro- ism, the eventual fraternization of na-

s all this means something to the ini- o the majority using the English lan- would be quite as intelligible if its nding words should change places,

ulted spirituality of nature. The soul uality. The equal morality of the sexes sexual integrity of the morals. The of harmony. The fraternal eventuality s, or the national fraternity of unity, or, again, the eventual nationality alization.

NAL BANKS.—The Committee on Bank- Currency intend to hold a meeting this the purpose of adopting some resolu- esting Mr. Hooper's bill for the regula- he National Banks. The clause more rly to be observed is that feature of the peiling National Banks to surrender ld Wildcat notes with many of the lain in their vaults, ostensibly to com- that proviso of the national banking ivalued Treasury notes to the amount ne-fifth of the annual authorized to lated. Several agents of leading New king houses are now here endeavor- ain the mind of the Committee on this

ecretary of the Cleveland Board of few days ago, addressed a circular to oards of Trade in the country, in rela- o the "Central system" of measure- among the Boards addressed was the Columbus, the Secretary of which through the papers of that city as

ply to the courteous question of the y to the Cleveland Board, he begs to t so much of the energies of the Colum- d were expended in being born, that it r been able to do anything since."

re other Boards almost as badly off.

MITTEE of the National Academy of consisting of Prof. Hillgarde, of the vey, quartermaster General Meigs, and tion, superintendent of Weights and s, will meet in Washington on Wednes- he purpose of examining and reporting e new device for separating the high wines of distilleries.

AL SHERIDAN.—General Pull. Sher- cording to a New Orleans dispatch, ally denies that he is a candidate for idency. He also says that the report s about to be married is entirely with- dation. He wants neither the Presi- ora'ty. He has no aspirations beyond nt happy situation and condition.

leeroy of Canton has issued an edict sels engaged in the kidnapping busi- ll be captured and destroyed and the ut to death, which has had the effect diminish, not to stop it. The price of ranges high now, $85 for "one piece" he figures.

COWAN, formerly Adjutant General of a candidate for Clerk of the House of ntatives for the Fortieth Congress. Only s the Postmaster and Chaplain of the nd if Colfax were out of the way, would f a dozen candidates for the Speaker-

Messrs. Lilile, the sale makers, have n arrangement with their creditors to business—a joint stock company having anized with D. W. Tuthill as superin-

FROM BEAVER COUNTY.

ns Revivals—National Bank and gh Elections—The Middleton ery.

rrespondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

NEW BRIGHTON, January 10, 1867.

resbyterian Church in this vicinity are their meetings this week, in conformi- the recommendation of the Synod to he first week of each year as a week of

ethod at Protestant Church at this place anged its name to simply Methodist Rev. Mr. Colhower, the paster, is hold- ctracted meeting, which commenced on ar's eve, and is said to be creating quite rest.

dr. McElliyar, of the Methodist Episcopal is also holding a protracted meeting s well attended.

ational Bank, at New Brighton, has de. dividend of five per cent. on the capital nt of the profits for the last six months. tion for Directors took place on Tues- hich resulted as follows: John Minor, in Wilde, James Duncan, Milton Town- . E. Hoops, George Barker, John John Stiles, and Matthew Darragh.

orough election resulted as follows: , Benjamin Beddoe; Assistant Bur- U. Myer; Town Council, Charles Dar- Magaw, S. C. Calhoun, Samuel Dur- nes Edgar, Joseph Reeves and E. H. der; School Directors, R. W. Williams n Tinsman; Auditor, J. K. Mitchell; r, Daniel Magaw; Assistant Assessors, Reeves and Joseph Alexander; Constа- ian McLain; High Constable, James , Judge of Election, Benjamin Rash d; Inspectors, C. F. Chamberlain, Milo or.

am at Beaver Falls, previous to the last in the House to-day to disqualify all persons afforded a free skating park of ample di- ns, which hundreds of lovers of the ex- ilarated themselves on and but for snow, a contest among the ladies for a r of skates was to have taken place on y last. It is still skidding, and there is flooding it.

rial of the parties arrested on suspicion murder of Mr. Thomas Middleton, with terman, Esq., of your city, for the com- ainst Samuel B. Wilson, Esq., of for the defendants, has been deferred e 23d inst. LINWOOD.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

Vasson Car Factory, at Springfield, Mass., rned yesterday morning. Loss, $10,000; ce, $15,000.

hmond dispatch says: Almost all the en are unwilling to work by contract dur- e present year. This is also the case most of the Southern States, labor- ering a share in the crops.

New York *Herald's* Havana correspond- the 7th says: The whole capital of Banco ol has been disposed of, and one million hundred and seventy-five dollars d above it. There is a million dollars in tion, besides the people sustain strong of the financial future of the island, and fident in general bankruptcy.

New York *Tribune's* Washington special the Government has received informa- om Vera Cruz that several transports ready arrived, and the French troops ommenced embarking. There are twen- large transports, which will be sufficient ive all the troops. It is expected that all ve embarked by the first of March.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

THE CAPITAL.

The New Pension Law

Regulating Tenure of Office.

Provisions of the Bill.

The Assassination of President Lincoln.

President Johnson Openly Charged with Complicity Therein.

Probable Failure of the Nebraska Bill.

Internal Revenue Matters in Chicago.

Financial Policy of the Ways and Means Committee.

Senator Cowan Tendered the Mission to Austria.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, January 14, 1867.

Pension Agents.

In the Senate to day the bill to change the mode of appointing Pension Agents was discussed, but final action was not reached. Mr. Sumner's amendment requiring all officers and agents of the Government whose salary exceed one thousand dollars per annum, to be sent to the Senate for confirmation, was voted down, but will probably be offered again with better success before the passage of the bill.

Tenure of Office.

The bill to regulate the tenure of office, was taken up, and discussed by several Senators. It will probably be debated several days longer, but will pass substantially as it stands now. It consists of nine sections. The first, that every person, excepting the Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, of War, or of the Navy, and of the Interior, the Postmaster General and the Attorney General, holding any civil office, to which he has been appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and every person who shall hereafter be appointed to any such office, and shall remain duly qualified to act therein, is and shall be entitled to hold such office until a successor shall have been in like manner appointed and duly qualified, except as otherwise provided.

The second section authorizes the President to suspend officers during the recess of the Senate for crimes and misdemeanors, but requires him to report the case to the Senate at its next session. If the Senate shall concur, the removal shall be valid. If not, the officer shall be restored.

The third section authorizes the President to fill all vacancies which may happen by death or resignation during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session of Congress.

The remaining sections punish the acceptance or signing of a commission after rejection by the Senate. The last section prohibits the payment of any salary to persons rejected by the Senate.

Scene in the House.

Quite a scene occurred in the House to-day during the morning hour. Mr. Loan, of Missouri, rose to a question on the Journal, the question during which he charged President Johnson with complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln, and declared that he had received his reward. A point of order was raised on such language by Mr. Hale, of New York, and was overruled by the Speaker, on the grounds that the House had, last Monday, ordered an investigation into high misdemeanors of the President. An appeal was taken by Loan, and the question of the appeal was laid on the table by one hundred votes. In reply to the question, Mr. Loan said that the proof of his charge would be submitted at the right time and in the right place!

Nebraska Bill.

The House then repealed the law for paying loyal owners of slaves in Kentucky and Maryland, where the latter had enlisted in the Union army.

Nebraska Bill.

The Nebraska bill was then taken up, and a spicy debate followed for two hours, during which the Edmunds Amendment, put in the Senate, requiring suffrage as a condition subsequent to the admission of the State, was severely criticised and declared to be invalid. A test vote showed but one majority in favor of the passage of the bill. It is regarded as impossible to pass the bill over the veto.

Internal Revenue in Chicago.

The Secretary of the Treasury sent to the House to-day a letter in reply to a resolution stating that the total amount of Internal Revenue collected in Chicago during the year 1866, was five millions eighteen hundred thousand dollars, and that the penalties assessed during that time for the violations of the law amounted to seven thousand, three hundred and seventy-nine thousand dollars. The recommendation of the Collector and Assessor, and for reasons given to the Department, all this amount had been remitted. The number of cases in which assessors has abdicated as to the tax assessed against firms, etc, is twenty-five, but one case that of Joseph A. Hinton, a brewer, was compromised on his paying the taxes and the fine after the matter had been placed in the hands of the District Attorney.

Financial Inquiry.

The Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee endeavored to day to state to the House that the financial policy of the Committee would be presented in a few days, but he was cut off by the rules. The Committee at first intended to suspend the rules so as to introduce a resolution declaring as the sense of the House that the currency should not be contracted beyond four millions per month. Although a majority of the House, or two-thirds disposed to suspend the rules, and a direct vote on the resolution was not taken. Another resolution declaring that the National Bank Currency should not be increased beyond the amount now authorized by law met the same fate.

Impeachment Investigation

The Judiciary Committee did nothing to day on the impeachment question. A memorial of one hundred and twenty-five citizens of New York City, in favor of impeaching the President, was laid before them.

To be Removed.

The President positively informed a Senator to day that he had resolved to remove at once the present Commissioner of Agriculture.

Among the *on dits* floating about the Capital to-day was one that Senator Cowan had been tendered the mission to Austria, in place of Motley, to be recalled.

Illness of Mr. Washburne.

Representative Washburne, of Illinois, is quite ill. He does not think he will be able to remain during the rest of the session.

Nominations Sent to the Senate.

The President sent to-day the following nominations to the Senate for confirmation: Senator Edgar Cowan, of Pennsylvania, to be Minister Resident at Vienna, Austria, vice J. L. Motley, who has resigned, and John W. Murphy, of Michigan, to be Governor of Idaho. Senator Cowan says he did not seek the position, and doubts if he accepts it.

The Maryland Senatorship.

There now seems to be no doubt whatever that Governor Swann will succeed Mr. Cresswell as United States Senator from Maryland, for six years from the fourth of March next. There was an obstacle in the law requiring one of the United States Senators to be taken from the Eastern Shore, but it seems that a compromise was agreed upon in a caucus of Democratic and Conservative members of legislature, the first result of which section is shown in the passage to-day by the House of a bill repealing the law requiring one of the United States Senators to be a resident of the Eastern Shore, and re-enacting it so as to take effect after the first of April next.

Distranchisement.

Mr. Shellabarger, of Ohio, introduced a bill in the House to-day to disqualify all persons who voluntarily aided the rebellion, from holding any office under the Government.

Ordered to Omaha.

General Augur will leave for Omaha, where he will take command of the military forces in that vicinity. He has been in command of the Department of Washington for three years.

WASHINGTON, January 14, 1867.

EXTINCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

There is little opposition in the Committee of Banking and Currency to Randall's bill for the extinction of the national debt in thirty-six years by a sinking fund, while the opposition from banks is less than expected.

RECEIPTS FROM INTERNAL REVENUE.

The total receipts from Internal Revenue since the 1st of July are $175,471,184. It is thought the entire receipts of the year will exceed the estimate by twenty or even thirty millions. It appears from official documents that nearly six millions of internal revenue was collected in the first collection district of Illinois during 1866.

IMMIGRATION.

In three-fourths of the year 1866 two hundred and eighty-six thousand four hundred and ninety persons arrived in the United States from foreign countries.

GOT HIS PLUM.

It is understood the President to-day nominated Senator Cowan Minister to Austria.

RECONSTRUCTION.

The Committee on Territories instructed Ashley to report his amendment to the bill to re-establish civil government in North Carolina as a substitute for Stevens's bill.

HARRISBURG.

Legislative Proceedings.

Discussion of Constitutional Amendments.

Important Local Bills Presented.

The House Standing Committees.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 14, 1867.

SENATE.

The special order for this evening was the Constitutional Amendments. The resolutions were discussed by Messrs. Searight, Connell, White and Landon.

HOUSE.

The Speaker laid before the House the report of the committee to investigate into the affairs of the Venango Bank. Mr. Wilson moved that five thousand copies be printed. Agreed to.

Bills in Place.

Mr. McKee—An act fixing the time of holding Courts in Allegheny, and regulating the proceedings therein;

Also, an act taxing persons soliciting passengers for railroads and steamboats;

Also, an act relating to law of evidence;

Also, to incorporate the Union Iron Mills of Pittsburgh.

An act to extend the act relative to fire and police telegraph of Philadelphia to the city of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Wilson—An act to repeal the act repealing the charter of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad.

A bill, an act to incorporate the Superior Iron Company.

Also an act to authorize the School Directors of Birmingham to erect a school house.

Mr. Chadwick—An act to compensate the School Directors of Elizabeth township for services during the draft.

Mr. Mechling—An act relating to the collection of railroad taxes in Kittanning.

A Skating Sell.

The grand skating carnival here to day was a large sell. The "Skating Queen" was represented by a Harrisburg boy, named Morris, in balmorals and furs.

Standing Committees of the House.

The following are the Standing Committees of the House of Representatives:

Ways and Means—Messrs. Waddell, Lee, Quay, M'Camant, Winam, M'Pherrin, Barton, Marks, Armstrong, Freeborn, Mann, Wilson, Woodward, Hartranft, Kinney, Finney, Westbrook, Chalfant, Speer, Weyand and Gregory.

Judiciary General—Messrs. Mann, Mechlin, Quay, Waddell, Wingard, Davis, Boyer, Lee and Meyers.

Judiciary Local—Messrs. M'Creary, Barton, Ewing, Harbison, Webb, Allen, Worrall, Craig, Jones, Preslan and Tharp.

Municipal Corporations—Messrs. Freeborn, Worrell, Sharpless, M'Creary, M'Camant, Armstrong, Cameron, Humphrey, Barton, Wilson, Fegel, Headman, Brown, Jenks and Coon.

Counties and Townships—Messrs. Wnann, M'Camant, M'Pherrin, Speer, Kenney, Hartranft, Harbison, Allen, Ewing, Sharples, Wright, Heizel, Satterthwait, Markley, Collins and Craig.

Railroads—Messrs. Kerns, M'Kee, Harbison, Wallace, Linton, Lee, Hall, Hemphill, Marks, Stumbaugh, Kimmell, Mechling, Piper, Lowry, Simon, Wedden, Wall, Wilson, Weiler, Subers, Perkins, Josephs and Koons.

Iron and Coal—Messrs. Stumbaugh, Subers, Quay, Davis, DeHaven, Ghegan, M'Sec, Wilsee, Marks, Wall, Markley, Quigley, Long, Headman, and Westbrook.

Mining and Manufacturing Companies.—Messrs. Lee, Ghegan, Wharton, Stumbaugh, Hoffman, DeHaven, Shuman, Wilson, Wright, Kimmell, Mechling, Piper, Long, Linton and Mullen.

Corporations—Messrs. Stebman, Allen, Adaire Kinney, Donohugh, Espy, Kerns, Peters, Heath, Ghegan, Chadwick, Woodward, Long, Chalfant, Markley, Quigley, Josephs, Rhone, Bard and Kurtz.

Roads, Bridges and Ferries—Messrs. Hoffman, DeHaven, Heath, Day, Kelley, Miller, Richards, Leech, M'Kee, Chase, Satterthwait, Robinson, Hood, Harner and Maian.

Education—Messrs. Stanton, Day, Pillow, Freeborn, Kinney, Ewing, Gordon, Wharton, Marks, Craig, Kline, Tharp, Robinson and Hood.

Estates and Escheats.—Messrs. Mechling, Mc-Cleary, Graham, Lyon, Fulton, Ewing, Espy, Wham, Harbison, Wingard, Jones, Kurtz, Koon, Hood and Beise.

Pecuniary Claims—Messrs. Davis, Wingard, Mullin, Freeborn, Lee, McCleary, Mann, Pennypacker, Armstrong, Jenks, Fuelan, Boyle, Meyers and Tharp.

Pensions and Gratuities—Messrs. Wingard, Schindel, Weiler, Brown, Hemphill, Hagenbuch, Colville, Adaire, Richards, Barrington, Maish, Lavin, Umland and Riggs.

To Compare Bills—Messrs. Watt, Cameron, Chase, Stacey, Stenman, Boyd, Breen, Brennan and Kurtz.

Election Districts—Messrs. Humphrey, Weiler, Lawton, Hall, Ewing, Espy, Stanton, Cameron, Fay, Harner, Kline, Hunt, Jones and Collins.

Agriculture—Messrs. Ewing, Webb, Chadwick, McPherrin, Gordon, Peters, Richards, Johnston, Steele, Wright, Breen, Rouch, Maian, Fegel and Collins.

Vice and Immorality—Messrs. Webb, Hoffman, Leech, Brown, Richards, Maish, Robinson and Leise.

Public Buildings—Messrs. Melly, Worral and Collins.

Library—Messrs. Selly, Sharples, Day, Kenney, Melly, requiring suffrage as a condition sacred Rhoads.

Militia—Messrs, Woodward, Worrall, Allen, Fay, Espy, Gallaher, Gordon, Pennypacker, Pillow, Routh, Linton, Westbrook, Rouch, Mc-Henry and Rhoads.

Divorces—Messrs. Kinney, Ghegan, McPherrin, Metzmond, Colville, Donohugh, Hartranft, McKee, Seller, DeHaven, Quigley, Marsh, Josephs, Satterthwait and Gregory.

Accounts—Messrs. Wallace, Watt, Seller Stehman, Wharton, Shuman, Kennedy, Peters, Heizel, Headman, Harner and Calvin.

Printing—Messrs. Quigley, Hagenbaumt, Colville and Roach.

Passenger Railways—Messrs. Marks, Freeborn, DeHaven, Adaire, Cradwick, Kerns, Wilson, Seller, Ghegan, Woodward, Quigley, Gregory, Mullin and Rouch.

Banks—Messrs. Cameron, Pennypacker, Adaire, Stumbaugh, Donohugh, Colville, Wright, Kimmell, Sleacy, McHeny, Brennan, Breen, Calvin and Harrington.

U. S. SUPREME COURT.

Decision in the Missouri Oath Case—It is Declared Unconstitutional—Test Oath not Applicable to Attorneys—Dissenting Opinion of Chief Justice and Associate Justices Miller, Swayne and Davis.

WASHINGTON, January 14.—Associate Justice Field delivered the opinion of the United States Supreme Court in the Missouri test oath case. Cummings, a Roman Catholic Priest, who was indicted for preaching, and refusing all civil and military officers to take the same oath. Attorneysexert a marked influence on the character of the government. If all the Attorneys in the South had been faithful to the obligations they had entered to swear, we should have been spared the horrors of the rebellion. It was not claimed by the majority of the Court that the law was a slander of blood; therefore, this is not a bill of attainder, nor does it appear it convicted any designated persons or declared persons, or persons who arrayed themselves in hostility to the Government, it gave no jurisdiction to the enemy, forfeited their right to appear in Court. This was not a criminal but a civil proceeding, which affected private rights only.

With regard to the Missouri case, the questions involved rested with the State. The constitutional restriction that Congress shall make no law abridging the liberty of speech or the press is not applicable. Justice Story says the whole power was left to the State, to be exercised according to its judgment. The Constitution of the United says no such persons as are described shall exercise their functions unless they show their loyalty. Cases were quoted in support of these points.

From New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, January 14.—Arrived, ship Alice Stuart, from Bath, Maine.

Major General Mower, assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau here, gives notice to persons making applications for land properly, being planters or others employing freedmen, can obtain transportation for them from other States. No person or persons have appointment from him securing to their States this business.

The *Commercial* newspaper, which on the 1st inst. assumed the defence of the political course of Governor Wells, has suspended.

The New Orleans *Tribune*, edited by a colored man, opposes the freedmen making contracts for later with planters or working on shares. It advises them to work by the week or day.

From Galveston.

GALVESTON, January 14.—The military commandant at Victoria, having declined to assist the Bureau officers, General Griffin has issued a circular explaining that all military officers must assist the bureau in those contingencies provided for in the late act and the civil rights bill.

Fire Near Springfield, Ohio.

CINCINNATI, January 14.—A portion of Warden, Mitchell & Co.'s reaper and mower manufactory, near Springfield, Ohio, was destroyed by fire Saturday night. Loss about forty thousand dollars; insured for twenty thousand.

From Fort Laramie.

FORT LARAMIE, January 12.—A mail party was attacked forty miles west of here last night by Indians, who captured seven mules and one wagon. A stealing party of Indians are reported prowling about this post.

WEST VIRGINIA OIL MATTERS.—The cold weather has caused a general suspension of business at White Oak and Burning Springs, and very little oil is being produced, except from flowing wells. The price of oil is still low, but an improvement is anticipated. The Parkersburg *Gazette* says an attempt is being made to extract turpentine from petroleum.

BY THE CABLE.

Amnesty to Russian Press.

Plot to Assassinate Napoleon.

Ship Thos. Humphrey Lost.

Turco-Italian Difficulty Settled

Revolutionary Address to the Spanish People.

Plot to Assassinate Napoleon.

PARIS, January 14.—A vague rumor is afloat that a desperate plot to assassinate the Emperor Napoleon has been discovered and frustrated by officials.

Amnesty to Russian Press.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 14.—The government of Russia has ordered a general amnesty for all offenses committed by the newspapers of the empire.

The Thomas Humphrey Lost.

LIVERPOOL, January 14.—The Thomas Humphrey, hence for New York, was lost near Hollyhead, and all on board except the captain and one man, were drowned.

Revolutionary Junta's Address.

MADRID, January 14.—The revolutionary Junta having its headquarters here has issued a stirring address to the people.

Turco Italian Difficulty Settled.

FLORENCE, January 14.—The difficulty between Italy and Turkey, relating to the Italian steamer fired on by forts of the Porte, has been amicably adjusted. The amount of indemnity to be paid by the Turkish Government is not fixed.

The Swiss not Allowed to Serve in the Pope's Army.

BERLIN, January 14.—The Swiss Government has under consideration a proposition to prohibit the people of Switzerland from serving in the Pope's army.

Shipping Intelligence.

LONDON, January 14.—The steamship Damascus, from Portland, arrived to day.

LONDON, January 14.—Evening.—American securities closed as follows: Illinois Central, 83¾; Erie, 40¾; 5 20's 72½. Consols closed at 90 for money.

Paris Money Market.

PARIS, January 14.—Five twenties, 72f.

Frankfort Money Market.

FRANKFORT, January 14.—Five twenty bonds 76¾.

Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, January 14.—Cotton market closed very dull; sales of 6,000 bales; middling uplands firm at 12½d.

Lard is quoted at 57s 6d per cwt, for American. Petroleum closed at 1s 7d per gallon for refined.

Ashes—Pots are salable at 35s for American.

MEXICO.

French Troops Embarking.

Liberal Stock Advancing

Maximilian Must Abdicate.

Dissatisfaction Among Imperialists

Outrages Committed by Liberals

Men Murdered and Women Ravished

NEW ORLEANS, January 14.—By letters of December 28th, from the city of Mexico, from the best informed authority in the Imperial Court, we have the following important intelligence: The French troops are descending en masse to Vera Cruz. General Castelnau leaves the city some time in the month of February. General Castelnau is the French Minister, and went to see the Emperor at Puebla, and obtained a promise from him of abdicating in twenty days. It appears that the answer of the Liberal chiefs so on invitation sent them for consultation, was returned in such terms as can be had, and the Emperor must abdicate. Notwithstanding, meantime, the Emperor is governed by his confessor, Pere Fischar, who assumed the reins of Government. Marquez and Miramon are at the head of affairs, and wherever they can lay their hands on them in order to fill the ranks of the army. The Liberals are all around the city. Americans are desirous of getting away, and are all taking out passports. The Liberal Minister, Lerdo de Tejada, is still before Iorg, but it is the last effort of the reactionists, and it is feared it will be a desperate one.

Late letters sent by a messenger extraordinary, left the Capital December 27. This is important and leaved no doubt that the French will be on the coast before the end of the same time before expected, and that the Emperor Maximilian will leaves the country to the possession of the Liberals. The capital and the forces of all Northern Mexican States, and their gallant leader, Porfirio Diaz, are marching to result in its capture. The City of Mexico itself is stragetically indefensible further. Some thousand Austrians have been secretly preparing by force at Puebla and other towns. Forbidden Mexico, Lerdo de Tejada, and the members of the City of Mexico, appealing to their patriotism to join the ranks of the Liberals, and they no longer the regular army. The Imperial General Lozada pr nounced at the head of the Empire, and declared the United states in his proclamation that he will observe armed neutrality in his district of Nagano. The excitement is slight at Puebla. The forces of Rosales and Nava, four Lieutenant Colonels, and a large number of other officers. They all agree to serve without remuneration during the end of the civil war.

Stages on the road from Orizaba to Mexico have been stopped by Diaz's troops, and the dispatch bags opened. None of the passengers were injured.

The Minister to France and Gen. Castelnau left Mexico on the 29th ult. for Vera Cruz. Their stormy interviews, and report is the Emperor abdicated. An Austrian frigate to carry the Emperor to Trieste lay in the harbor.

Tehuantepec was occupied on the 16th by a force of Liberals commanded by Palacio, and the most horrible atrocities committed. The troops, Men were assassinated and Women violated, in the presence of their husbands, and in its character *ex post facto*, and as a bill of attainder. The judgment of the court below is reversed, with decisions that the plaintiff shall report without day.

Associate Justice Field also delivered the opinion of the Court on the *ex parte* cases of Garland and Marr, who, taking part in the rebellion, ask to be readmitted to practice. The Court held that the latter law was intended to punish crime, it may not have been imposed at the time the offense was committed. It is in its nature an *ex post facto* law. Attorneys are not officers of the United States, they are officers of courts, and hold their offices during good behavior. The Court is not the register of the edicts of any other power. The applicants obtained a pardon from the President, which relieves them from the consequences of their offenses, and makes them citizens in the eyes of the law, as they were before it was committed. Congress cannot limit the perogitive of mercy. It cannot be fettered by legislative restriction. It followed that the prayer of the petitioner must be granted, and the judgment below be reversed. The rules which requires attorneys to take the test oath must be rescinded.

Associate Justice Miller, for himself, the Chief Justice and Associates Swayne and Davis, read a dissenting opinion, claiming that the practice in Court is a privilege. Attorneys are subject to legislation the same as Judges. The law makes no distinction, but requires all civil and military officers to take the same oath. Attorneysexert a marked influence on the character of the government. If all the Attorneys in the South had been faithful to the obligations they had entered to swear, we should have been spared the horrors of the rebellion. It was not claimed by the majority of the Court that the law was a slander of blood; therefore, this is not a bill of attainder, nor does it appear it convicted any designated persons or declared persons, or persons who arrayed themselves in hostility to the Government, it gave no jurisdiction to the enemy, forfeited their right to appear in Court. This was not a criminal but a civil proceeding, which affected private rights only.

With regard to the Missouri case, the questions involved rested with the State. The constitutional restriction that Congress shall make no law abridging the liberty of speech or the press is not applicable. Justice Story says the whole power was left to the State, to be exercised according to its judgment. The Constitution of the United says no such persons as are described shall exercise their functions unless they show their loyalty. Cases were quoted in support of these points.

SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK A. M.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, January 14, 1867.

SENATE.

Petitions were presented for the passage of the pending tariff bills; for increase of pay of army officers; for reconstruction on the basis of equal rights; for the establishment of the currency, &c. Also, memorial of the Minnesota Legislature for an appropriation for the improvement of the Mississippi River.

A bill was passed to set aside the net proceeds of Internal Revenue in the Territories in 1867 and 1868, for the erection of penitentiaries.

Mr. LANE called up the bill to change the mode of appointing pension agents, providing that they hereafter be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Mr. SUMNER's amendment requiring that all officers and agents of the Government, whose salaries or fees exceed $1,000, must be confirmed by the Senate, was opposed by Mr. LANE, who said he would prefer it as an independent proposition. Rejected, Yeas 12, nays 28.

The morning hour expired, and the unfinished business of Friday, the bill to regulate tenure of office, came up.

Mr. HENDRICKS's amendment to strike out the provision that no vacancies be filled except with the advice and consent of the Senate, during such times he exercised without salaries, fees or other emoluments, by such other offices as may by law exercise such power, was debated by Messrs. Hendricks, Conness, Wilkinson and Frelinghuysen.

Mr. SHERMAN said the bill contemplated nothing unconstitutional or revolutionary. Of the 1,500 removals made by the President since last summer, not 100 have been reported to the Senate. If he believed the President would try to usurp power, he would not send in other names after his nominees were rejected, he would not keep in the vacancies during the recess, but the President had manifested no such disposition.

At Mr. HENDRICKS's suggestion, Mr. HENDRICKS withdrew his amendment for the present, to let the debate proceed on the general merits of the bill.

Mr. HOWE moved to strike out the words "capitulation, or surrender," from the first clause of the third section, which reads as follows: "That the President shall have power to fill all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate by reason of death, resignation, expiration of term of office, or otherwise, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session thereof." Amendment agreed to.

Mr. WILLIAMS spoke generally in favor of the bills.

After an executive session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills were introduced to repeal the tax on insurance companies; to provide for universal suffrage set so to disfranchise no person on account of sex; to establish a Mining Bureau; to protect the rights of actual settlers on public lands; limiting the amount to be entered on any one tract and district upon Agricultural College scrip.

Bills and Resolutions were introduced that the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad discharge to be given all volunteer commissioned officers who have been honorably discharged from the service of the United States, and that certain privileges of citizenship for sale of railway stations be granted to them; also, providing for restoration of these privileges in certain cases; for payment of bounty to representatives of officers and soldiers killed during the service of the United States, whose term of enlistment expired before death; for relief of certain civil governments in the States lately in rebellion; for extending the time for the collection of direct taxes.

Mr. LOAN's resolution, offered last Monday, looking to the impeachment of President Johnson, came up, the pending question being, on motion for the previous question, Mr. Loan read a speech arraigning the President for acts of the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, and concluded by declaring that he was privy to the assassination of President Lincoln.

Mr. HALE rose to a question of order, and said he understood the gentleman to charge the President directly with complicity in the crime of the assassination of President Lincoln, and asked if such language was in order.

The SPEAKER said the manuscript was sent to the clerk's desk, and read as follows: "The crime of assassination by which President Lincoln was committed; the way was made clear for the succession; the assassin's bullet. Wielded by a confederate, Rhodes paid for; relied by rebel gold, made Andrew Johnson President of the United States. The price which he was to pay for the succession was the betrayal of the Republic, fidelity to party, of treason and of blood."

Mr. HALE claimed that another sentence to the same general effect has been pronounced by Mr. Loan.

Mr. LOAN denied that he had proceeded further. Hon. Thomas Ewing read, and asked Mr. Hale to state what he supposed he had read.

Mr. HALE replied that was the very thing he had objected to.

Mr. LOAN said he was not under any obligation to submit to any move of the manuscript than he had read.

The SPEAKER remarked that the speech being taken down by the reporters, it could be taken down by the reporters.

Mr. HALE withdrew the words which he referred to were to the effect substantially as those read, carrying the direct idea that he (Loan) was privy to the crime. Mr. LOAN replied to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and that Andrew Johnson paid and pays the price for that assassination.

Mr. LOAN submitted that as Mr. Hale could not control the speech of Mr. Loan, no point of order could be raised.

The SPEAKER decided that the remarks were in order. The resolution before the House being one declaring it the imperative duty of the House to impeach Andrew Johnson, in the case, a member has a right to take why he thinks so, and the question is not before the House.

Mr. HALE decided to appeal from the decision.

The SPEAKER admits a personal favor that appeal be taken, and Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, being entitled to the floor. The appeal was laid on the table—yeas 101, nays 37.

Mr. LOAN continued his speech to a conclusion.

Mr. HALE challenged Mr. Loan to specify the evidence in proof of his charges, and intimated that it was that of the lowest character of testimony.

Mr. LOAN declined to do so.

The morning hour here expired, and the bill went over as unfinished business.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois, the Secretary of War was directed to furnish a statement of the number of officers and soldiers of the regular army and volunteers, and the number furnished with camp equipage in and out of the United States with the war cost.

Mr. WILSON, of Iowa, asked leave to offer a bill to prevent the circulation of Tallow-way upon the National circulation than four millions per month during 1867, and that for the compound interest bonds authorized to be withdrawn to the extent of that amount, legal tender notes to be issued to serve without remuneration during the end of the civil war.

The House refused to suspend the rules, ayes 74, nays 67, so the resolution was not received.

Mr. BLAINE moved to suspend the rules so to allow the introduction of a resolution that the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to sell National Bank notes for circulation beyond the $10 hundred millions authorized by law.

The House refused to suspend the rules, yeas 71, nays 92, not two-thirds.

Mr. BLAIR, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a joint resolution suspending the operation of twenty-fourth section of the act of 24th of February, 1863, relating to the confiscation of real owners of colored volunteers. It passed, two-thirds.

The House refused to suspend the rules to allow Mr. CALLUM to offer a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to immediately report a bill for the repeal of all laws giving the Secretary of the Treasury authority to withdraw any legal tender currency from circulation except compound interest notes, which shall be issued in bonds of the United States as they now do.

Mr. BANKS offered a resolution that it is the duty of the Government to give effect to the moral sentiment of the nation through all its agencies for the purpose of preventing the further introduction of coolies into this hemisphere or adjacent islands. Adopted unanimously.

A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury was received, relative to the appointment of Internal Revenue, relative to collections in the First District of Illinois, was presented and referred.

Messages were received from the President, relative to the Fenian movement, and giving an account of the occupation of Matamoras by United States troops in November; the capture of the Rio Grande City, and information in possession of the Secretary of State in reference to the revolution in Candia.

The Legislature of the State of Nebraska came up, and the question of impartial suffrage was voted on, and the House refused to take the previous question by a vote of 66 to 67, but without coming to a vote on the bill.

Adjourned.

From San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 13.—The British war ship Encounter has arrived, having touched to demand the release of the Captain and sailors of the wrecked ship Melooka, held prisoners by Indians.

The new Governor of Washington Territory, Gen. Pickering, has arrived. He will probably be the present incumbent, desires time for investigation, and seems to be expected. In justice to

e Daily Commercial

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1867.

THAT we may the better serve the advertising public, we have decided to devote a certain part of the first page of the COMMERCIAL to a class of advertisements not heretofore put there. Consequently we have transferred to that page transient advertisements, distinctly classified, as "Wants," "To Let," "For Sale," "Personal," &c., where they will hereafter appear. It will be observed that, avoiding the wilderness of display types, we have made these advertisements conspicuous, and given them a neat appearance by leading them all—editorializing them as it were—so that they will be sure to be read, and, we think, become a department to which, after the telegraphic news, the reader will first turn.

Into this preferred department other than advertisements technically coming under the head of "Wants," "For Sale," &c., may just as well go. Here the merchant, the professional and the general business advertiser can put his notice—there being nothing required but to adapt them in phraseology. In other cities this is done somewhat extensively, and it is becoming the favorite method of making sure of having advertisements read.

Advertisements in this department will be inserted at transient rates only—ten cents a line for each insertion—but no advertisement will be inserted for less than thirty cents.

Advertisers who do not choose to come under this arrangement, can, as heretofore, go into the other parts of the paper. It deprives nobody of anything—it simply tenders increased advantages to those who choose to avail themselves of them.

At the same time, advertisers who wish to have their notices on the first page, displayed, as on other pages, can have them placed there, but always at ten cents a line. We think no advertiser can fail to perceive how great the advantages are of being on the first page, where advertisements are sure to strike the eye at once, whether in the style of "Wants," &c., or displayed.

Notices that have heretofore occupied the specially preferred department under the head of "City Items," on the first page, will hereafter appear as local, or semi-editorial matter, on the fourth page, where hereafter the local news will appear, or on the second page, immediately following the editorial matter. The charge for all notices thus inserted will be twenty cents a line. Every advertiser knows well the advantages of this department. Appearing as reading matter, and in a part of the paper more generally read than any other, there is no style of advertising so much appreciated as this, as our own columns shew.

We study to arrange our paper, so as to give the advertising public their choice. Our own opinion is, that there is no style of advertising that begins to have the advantages offered in the preferred departments at transient rates. It has novelty, freshness and the absolute certainty of gaining the eye of the reading public—as every shrewd advertiser well knows.

A BATCH of Mr. JOHNSON'S appointments—including some if not all of those for this vicinity—have been sent to the Senate, The question of confirmation is one in which the people feel an interest as deep as that which they have expressed concerning the apostacy of Mr. JOHNSON himself. These removals and appointments are so interwoven with what is best expressed by the term Johnsonism —and which has been so universally reprobated—that this rejection becomes a necessity to consistency and honor on the part of the Republicans in Congress, with whom the matter rests. The removals and appointments were made with the direct view of prostrating the Republican party and the precious interests committed to it. The confirmation of appointments made under such circumstances would be virtually an act of acquiescence in the treacherous attempt. We have but one thing to expect from our friends in Congress, and that is that they will resist the confirmation of all appointments made under such circumstances.

ANDREW G. CURTIN.

At the close of his second term of office, ANDREW G. CURTIN this day retires from the Gubernatorial Chair of Pennsylvania, and in taking leave of him as a public officer it is becoming that we should do so in a manner worthy of the man. Remembering that he is but a man, moved by the same passions and subject to the same infirmities as mankind in general, it is no unmeaning compliment to say of him that during the whole of his administration of our State affairs, but little, if any thing, was done by him that did not command the respect and commendation of all unprejudiced minds.

Inaugurated into the office of Governor on the eve of the late rebellion, and when the hand of treason was in a few weeks afterwards raised against the Government, throwing himself at once in the van of our loyal people, and laboring by day and by night with a resoluteness and unselfishness never surpassed, there were but few moments in his eventful six years of official duty when he enjoyed any release from the oppressing duties and cares of office. In the performance of his laborious task he was aided not only by an honest and loyal heart, but by an intimate and thorough knowledge of the people whose Chief Magistrate he was.

At the commencement of the war when President LINCOLN called for seventy-five thousand volunteers, we recollect how startled many people were by Governor CURTIN'S pledge that Pennsylvania alone would furnish one hundred thousand men if necessary. Extravagant as the promise seemed then, subsequent events have shown how well he knew his people.

The financial condition of the State proclaims the excellence of his administration. Although the minds of the people were absorbed by thoughts of the condition of the country during the progress of the war, at its close the people have the interesting knowledge that the State debt has been greatly diminished, and that upon the recommendation of Governor CURTIN their real estate has been relieved from taxation for State purposes. These are facts appreciable by all, and have won for him the respectful considerations of his bitterest political enemies.

During the war his official duty brought him into daily contact with our gallant soldiers. With a heart keenly sensitive to the privations endured and the dangers incurred by them, he was unceasing in his efforts to provide for their comfort and to make their camp life less irksome. How effectually he labored to that end is best attested by the fact that to-day there is no one class of our citizens more warmly attached to him than are our returned volunteers and the relatives of those who fell upon glorious battle fields, and this attachment proves his right to the title by which he is everywhere known—"the soldier's friend."

The war being ended, it is eminently fitting that Governor CURTIN should retire from the office to which, it may be said without irreverence, it seems as though he had been called by Providence in order that he might control the boundless resources of Pennsylvania in the defense of our National Government against the hand of treason. Misrepresented as our loyal people were in the United States Senate, it was one of GOD'S blessings that we were faithfully represented in our Governor. Doubtless he committed errors, but how many of us can examine our lives for the past six years and say that we are better than him? Considering the almost numberless duties that were performed, and the almost endless interests to be cared for by him, the only wonder is that so few shortcomings can be imputed to him.

So well did he conduct himself during his six years of office, that it was to be expected that his last message to the General Assembly should be marked by high statesmanlike views. Like the faithful sentinel upon the watch-tower he has been; it was natural that he should sound the key-note of alarm, and point out the true remedy for the impending danger. The silly wance of none but loyal voices in the Government, and the right of loyal men to govern the disloyal until they purge themselves of their treason, is now the true Shibboleth.

While we are denied the pleasure of congratulating Governor CURTIN and the people upon his elevation to the U. S. Senate, we are permitted to say that his canvass for that position was conducted in a manner highly creditable to himself, and becoming the exalted dignity of the office, and that his defeat reflects more honor upon him than his election does upon the successful candidate. To the consciousness of his rectitude he can combine the knowledge that he was the choice of the people, and that he was unsuccessful only because the "longest purse" was more potential than the people's will.

CONGRESS ON CONSTITUTIONS.

The territories of Nebraska and Colorado are causing the United States a great deal more trouble and anxiety than they have any right to do. They seek to come in as States while yet occupying such a position in regard to population as renders their admission a very great favor, and yet, even to accomplish their end, they obstinately refuse to comply with a condition that would not affect them at all at present, and would have but slight influence on their future. While both professing to be, so far as the majority of their citizens are concerned, republican in tone and feeling, they are, nevertheless, creating distraction, if not sowing absolute discord, among the leading minds of the party, and are fast driving Congress to the alternative of being inconsistent in principle, or of letting them remain as territories until they shall have acquired sense enough to come to terms.

Such questions as their present action is bringing up, and such changes of base as it is causing in Congress, are perplexing to the last degree. Mr. WADE, for instance, supposed to be the staunchest man in the Senate, is willing to compromise upon a point of vital importance, if he can but get them admitted and so be nearer the adoption to the amendment of the United States Constitution. A new subject altogether—as to whether Congress has the right to impose an irrevocable condition on an in-coming State—has been introduced to further vex the already stormy sea of politics. Mr. EDMONDS—who is responsible for the production of this Apple of Discord—Mr. SUMNER and Mr. GRATZ BROWN believe a condition so imposed is an "irreversible guarantee." Mr. WADE thinks otherwise; but admits, if the condition were made an integral part of the Constitutions of the new States, it would be perpetually binding. Yet he voted for the condition, as presented by Mr. EDMONDS, because of his extreme desire to recruit the body to which he belongs with four new members, who he thinks can be relied on to sustain a certain project.

Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, went further than Mr. WADE in refusing to concede that Congress has power to annex any irrevocable conditions to the admission of a State; but declared that Constitutional Amendments, adopted preliminary to the process of admission, might be insisted on as indispensable. Mr. POMEROY, of Kansas, would have the Constitutions now offered sent back to the people themselves, and held that the people solely, and neither Congress nor the Territorial Legislatures, had the power to impose conditions or to amend. He absented himself during the vote on the bill, while Mr. HOWARD voted *against* the amendment and *for* the bill after the amendment was taked on to it. The positive antagonisms of opinion seem irreconcilable, and every day some new sophistry, or bit of special pleading, or old notion with a novel kink in it, is sprung upon the Senate, and the time of that body is wasted, the seeds of dissension are being sown, and affairs of far more moment are neglected. It seems to be the height of folly to discuss the efficacy of this or that conditional codicil to a constitution. Whether the word "white" shall or shall not be stricken from the Constitutions of these Territories, before their request for admission be considered at all, is the real issue in the case, and the only one worth debating and deciding on now. If Congress insists upon its being stricken out, then how the erasure shall be effected becomes a question of law, and one with which Congress has nothing to do.

LAST OF THE INDORSERS.

CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrolton, was the last of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, to which the people of this country were permitted to see lingering in life among them. SAMUEL DOWNING is the last of the more numerous company, who in heroic acts and painful endurance, stood as indorsers of that glorious Declaration, through a seven years' war. One soldier alone of the Revolutionary army survives, after the four score and four years that have passed, since its terrible conflicts were crowned with final victory. If all the muster rolls of that army, embracing the volunteers and levies of every Colony from Massachusetts to South Carolina, were to be called, and in place of the thousands that used to respond at reveille and tattoo, would now answer, except the trembling, broken voice of one frail old man. His feeble "here," would prove him the only personal representative of the grand and glorious host that achieved our independence. The gloomy fancy of NEREUS has here been more than realized. Less than one hundred years have been sufficient to sweep all the brave host into the grave, with the solitary exception of SAMUEL DOWNING. Officers and men, Generals and their aids, older and younger, have all gone but one.

A petition has been introduced in Congress, asking the appropriation of a yearly stipend of $1,000 to this aged man. If he is at all in need of the aid solicited, individual kindness will, of course, supply it, while the proverbially slow process of legislation is going on. The Government has for nearly fifty years pensioned the men of the Revolution. The good work is now nearly done. We hope as little delay as possible will occur in its last act of pecuniary gratitude to a man who fought in the Revolution.

FAMINE PRICES AMID PLENTY.

If any one imagines, or if any one asserts, that the present price of flour is owing to a scarcity of the article, the following statements will prove incontestibly that it is not so. Upon accurate statistics made up from reliable sources at New York, and reaching to the first of November, or near to the close of navigation on the lakes and canals, there is abundant reason for the belief that the high price is not owing to scarcity, nor to gold premium, nor to the currency, but solely to collusion among grain speculators, at the controlling centers of the trade.

To dispose of the gold and currency question and to exempt the money from the blame, let it be noted that the prices are twelve per cent. higher than they were in 1864, when gold was nearly double what it is now; and that flour is nearly double what it was in November, 1863, when gold was the same as in 1866; and that it is at least thirty per cent. higher than it was in November, 1865, when gold was about the same as in 1866.

Scarcity, we admit, might account for all these strange results. If the crops had failed, the demand continuing, the price must have gone up, even if gold had been as plenty and as cheap as currency. And there was, in fact, a scarcity *in the market*. The amount of flour received at tide water in 1866 to November 1, was only 213,700 barrels, or less than *one-third* of what it was in 1865, and less than *one-fourth* of what it was in 1864, and the quantity of wheat was 3,893,900 bushels in 1866, which was but little more than half the amount received in 1865, and not one-third of what was received in 1864.

But this apparent scarcity is only local, being found in and near the market to which consumers resort for their supplies. If we turn our attention to the great purchasing markets where speculators "most do congregate," we find that at Chicago, Milwaukee, Toledo and other Western buying and shipping grain markets, the aggregate of flour *received* in 1866 was 3,209,061 barrels, being 168,780 barrels more than in 1865. Of wheat the receipts were about the same, and of other grains, the increase in favor of 1866 was over 11,000,000 bushels.

From these figures any one of common capacity can see that it is not scarcity nor is it a redundant currency, nor is it the high price of gold that causes the high price of bread materials. Under our reports of General and Produce Markets of Saturday, the 12th, will be found, from a Chicago paper, a view of the condition in that city, from which it appears that the speculators have got themselves into a difficult position, when they are obliged to keep up the prices in Chicago while they are hurrying to sell their stocks in New York, the consequence being, according to the COMMERCIAL'S reports, of Saturday, that Chicago quotations represent "wheat quiet and two cents higher," while in New York the report is "flour very dull and fully 20 cents lower," and "wheat dull, heavy, and 2 to 3 cents lower."

There is some reason to hope that the enormous wrong that has in this department been practiced upon the people of the country, upon farmers as well as others, by a set of middle men who control prices paid to the producer as well as prices paid by the consumer, will eventually be rectified. In all ages and in all lands, it has been deemed infamous to make money out of the necessities of the poor and needy, especially in the article of bread. If the representations made of the system of business at the controlling centers of the wheat and flour trade be correct, there is ample room for the operation of some humane feeling and honest principle then, the result of which would be the restoration of the trade to the ordinary and wholesome competitions of business.

ILLINOIS WOOL GROWERS.

The Illinois Wool Growers' Association held a meeting at Springfield on the 18th inst. We extract the following from the Secretary's spirited call. It is very suggestive, and may, perhaps, aid to stir up our own wool growers to more energy in making their wishes known to Congress. Let the meeting next Wednesday of the Pennsylvania Association be a full one:

"*We are in a tight place.* Mr. Secretary McCulloch finds he can get a heap more revenue by putting very high duties on wool. Mr. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Wells, thinks he can frame better tariffs than all Congress combined, and therefore thinks foreign wools are right by a duty of but six cents per pound.

"'Come up to Springfield, one thousand of you, and let us know what you think.'

"Another thing: let every wool grower in the States sit down and write two letters, one to Hon. Lyman Trumbull, and one to Hon. Richard Yates, telling them that we need the 'Bingham Amendment'—if they are willing that the wool growers of Illinois *should live*.

"It's no use talking. Gentlemen in Congress! we can't live and grow wool under the present tariff with taxes and expenses where they are at present.

"If you wish to drive us out of wool growing, and into the raising of 'ten cent' corn, just say the word."

We can tell the Illinois wool growers, also, that if the "Gentlemen in Congress" persist in retaining the present tariff on manufactured articles generally—or only add the insufficient increase at present shadowed forth in the MCCULLOCH-WELLS report, they will ere long have hundreds of thousands from Pennsylvania mills and Eastern work shops competing with them in the production of ten cent corn, as the only mode left by which to gain a subsistence.

The friends of Protection have need to be up and doing.

A BREADFUL outcry has been raised by some of the late rebels against taxing cotton, even to the moderate extent of three cents a pound. They charge it on a tyrannical disposition toward the Southern States, and pronounce it utterly ruinous to the prospects of cotton culture and the financial recuperation of the South.

How different this tax appears in their estimation, from that heavy duty which the precious Confederate Government laid on cotton. Ah, but that was intended to help the overthrow of the United States, while the present tax goes for its support. And this makes all the difference in their estimate of it. This makes it tyrannical and heavy to be borne and destructive to cotton culture. The same morbid or depraved condition of the judgment extends its influence to their opinions and speech, in reference to all Government measures, and renders them unworthy of the least consideration or weight, either with Congress or with the loyal people.

THE New York *Tribune* thinks that if the President is to be impeached, his management of the Fenian question affords the best ground for that purpose. Johnson is folly to think of impeaching Johnson and protests strongly against it. The late Postmaster General DENNISON is in Washington urging the abandonment of the entire scheme, and it is probable that it will be abandoned.

THIS is the latest story about the assassin Booth's present existence. Mr. James E. Campbell writes to the New York *Times* that while in Calcutta, British East India, he heard two gentlemen talking on the subject, when one said to the other that any one who sympathized with the conspirators *dreamed* to meet the fate of Booth. The other replied:

"The fate of Booth! I will lay a wager of five hundred pounds sterling that John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated President Lincoln, is alive and in good health at the present time, and agree to furnish proof of it within six months."

The bet was accepted and the money pasted. Curiosity prompted Mr. Campbell to inquire the name the party whose strange offer had been so readily accepted, and was informed he was no other than the late notorious rebel pirate, Lieutenant William Martin Tolbert, of Shenandoah notriety, formerly of Troy, Ohio, but more recently of New York, and which is at present master of the ship Queen Bird, and that is the end of the mystery for the present.

SOMEBODY has been calculating the number of persons engaged in different trades in London by consulting the Directory of that colossal metropolis. He tells us for instance, there are 3000 boot-makers, and 200 wholesale makers. The grocers and tea dealers number nearly 4000. There are 2000 bakers, 1750 butchers; 1500 tobacconists; 1360 milliners, and about the same number of green grocers. The lodging-house keepers, dairy-men, and builders, each number about 1250. The linen drapers number some 1200; hatters about 600; hosiers 600; outfitters 250. Of private schools there are nearly 1200. Now this is not the way to analyze such a vast and unique work as this. He should have given us the numbers of people engaged in queer, outlandish kinds of business as well as those of common matter-of-fact tradesmen. Thus he informs us all about the butchers and the bakers, but he hasn't a word to say concerning the candle stick makers.

THE New York *Tribune* publishes a large portion of a speech, lately delivered in England by Mr. Thomas Hughes, Member of Parliament, on the subject of the Jamaica massacre, and highly eulogizes it. Mr. Hughes got a big stock high ground, concluding that the only mode of trial known to the British Constitution is trial by jury; and in the course of his speech he quoted the greatest legal authorities of England to prove that it is murder for a military man to try a subject of the realm for his life, and to execute him after such a pretended trial." Mr. Hughes may argue till he is hoarse and the *Tribune* indorse him till its ink gives out, but neither nor both can do away with the fact that there are exigencies where their pleasant rose-water views of things are out of the question. Our experiences during the late rebellion taught all of us that the civil law must sometimes give way to a stronger power. The general public safety requires it, and general public opinion subsequently approves it.

THE New York *Times*, noticing that James Stephens, Chief Organizer of the Irish Republic, has again turned up after lying concealed in New York long enough to make believe he had been to Europe and back, says he is here again "doubtless with the view of getting more plunder out of the hard working men and women among us." The *Times* disavows a paragraph apparently favorable to Fenianism, inadvertently published in its columns, and finally suggests that the Head Swindler and his fellow conspirators will, "of course, attempt, as they love to use the press," and trusts that none of its readers will be misled. It concludes with the declaration, in which we heartily concur, that fellows like Stephens should be in the stocks—if that valuable institution were still in existence.

A BRILLIANT editorial youth, who indites articles for the Portland *Statesman*, which pretends to be the leading journal of the far off State of Oregon, winds up an effusion, that he evidently imagined would set a large portion, at least, of the world on fire, with the subjoined gorgeous paragraph:

The best and bravest of the land are hunted down by these frothing hell hounds of fanaticism, who come like fiends from the pit, red with conflagration, and sheeted with lurid flame, to bring fresh disaster and death among us.

We need scarcely say that the *Statesman* is a Democratic—a *very* Democratic—in point of fact a "Jo Lane" Democratic sheet, and we are very much mistaken if the genius with whose glowing periods it astonishes the Pacific slope, is not an exotic production of the Sunny South.

THE New York *Herald* has a Liverpool correspondent who professes to believe in the prophecies of the Irish Revolutionary Head. He says, though, "it all depends on the honesty, pluck and nerve of James Stephens." If that be the case, no fear need be felt by the most timid of Englishmen. The same intelligent scribbler continues:

"I feel quite satisfied, from what I have seen and heard of late, that in the event of insurrection in Ireland taking place, the most serious work of the revolution will occur in England."

We shouldn't be surprised. The total non-execution of the principal insurrectionists, for instance.

THE Fleetwing seems to have been peculiarly unfortunate in the late ocean race. Besides losing six of her crew she experienced pretty heavy weather though her trip, and sustained more losses of canvass, &c., than did her opponents. The first night at sea while jibbing she carried away her square sail boom and main topmast spreader, and on the second night she carried away three flying jib-booms.

A young lady of Louisville, on the evening of January 7th, went to call on a rich but eccentric old lady who also resides in that city, dwelling alone with no companion but a cat. The young lady made some remark about that animal, when the ancient female flew at her in the most ferocious manner and it was with difficulty the visitor escaped from the house.

FRANCE, "eldest son of the Church," should, in the opinion of the *Journal des Debats* (Conservative Orleanist organ) assume the protectorate over the Christian subjects of Turkey in preference to "schismatic Russia or heretic England."

EVERYBODY writes in compliment to Captain Samuels of the yacht Henrietta. He seems to have followed a straight path across the Atlantic as unerringly as if it had been staked out on both sides.

VENICE promises to be a valuable acquisition to the Kingdom of Italy, financially. The receipts exceed the expenditure by nearly one-third.

RUSSIA and Austria seem to be upon the worst of terms. The Romanoff keeps haughtily and menacingly silent. The Hapsburg is sulkily suspicious.

A Question of Morals.

In some countries no person not professing the State or national religion is allowed to give testimony in the courts of law. A man not a Catholic in one place or not a Mussulman in another, no matter how essential his evidence may be to the rightful settlement of a case, cannot be examined as a witness without subscribing to an oath his soul abhors, and, refusing to do that, on no consideration will he be heard. Even in England, where a person of any nationality will be accepted if he will swear in the manner peculiar to his people—no matter how heathenish and barbarous that manner may be—an Englishman born, if he scruple to make oath upon the New Testament, is contumeliously rejected. More surprising still, a Judge in a New York Court, a few years ago, refused to take the evidence of a well known citizen because he declared his disbelief in the Christian religion, while the same Judge would have no objection whatever to a Jew or Bramin. Such is the force of prejudice and custom. In Belgium, too, which has been, since its erection into an independent kingdom, regarded as a model of free, constitutional government, the same inconsistency and intolerance are manifested. Quite an excitement was created there three or four weeks ago, during a trial which took place in the Tribunal of Correction. One Pierre Todeur, a printer, was summoned as a witness and sworn to tell "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth;" but he refused to conclude the oath with the formula "so help me God," saying that his religion prohibited him from invoking Divinity. The presiding Judge insisted upon the witness taking the oath as administered, declaring the oath of a witness to be a civil act not a religious act. The witness, persisting in his refusal, was adjudged to be in contempt of court, and sentenced to pay a fine of twenty dollars and be imprisoned for fifteen days. This is scarcely in accordance with the principles of civil and religious liberty.

A Lawyer Forgetting Himself.

The legal profession in New York must develop less of dignity upon the bench as well as utter disregard of the amenities—we may say decencies—of the profession among members of the bar. For example, Mr. John McKeon, well, if not always favorably known, as counsel and politician, appeared before Judge Daly of the Common Pleas, on behalf of the liquor dealers, and asked for a continuance of the injunction against the enforcement of the new and stringent Excise Law, which the Supreme Court of the State had just pronounced constitutional. He must have known that the lower court could not review the action of the higher, and therefore his only object in trying to open the question must have been to get an opportunity to ask the Common Pleas Court—as he did—to take notice that he denounced the decision of the Court of Appeals, and that court itself as "a bogus concern." This was brutal and forcible, but it was scarcely in accordance with customary practice or the rules of legal etiquette. The occasion for this language was, as we gather from the published reports, not that the Court of Appeals had decided a certain point against the wishes of some three hundred liquor dealers, who are said by the New York papers to have stood behind their advocate and applauded his disgraceful tirade of abuse. It is gratifying to be informed by counsel that "the remark was somewhat sharply rebuked by Judge Daly." We should think it ought to have been.

Ice Boats.

We find in the New York *Tribune* an interesting account of the ice boats on the Hudson River. The season for their use is just beginning. The finest ice boats in the world are at present owned by the Poughkeepsie Ice Boat Association, whose fleet now numbers ten of three vessels. The quickest time on record in the world was made last winter by one of these boats—the Sea Flake—and was nine miles in eight minutes, the wind being on the beam. Ice boats, which have only become common within a few years, cost from $15 to $500. The most expensive are of course elaborately fitted up.

The hull is usually cigar shape, the deck being only four or five inches from the surface of the ice. Under the forward part are two stationary runners, the whole rest of the triangle being the bow. Under the stern is a moveable runner called the "jigger," by means of the vessel is rigged exactly like a sloop, except that wire rigging is brought into requisition. All well regulated boats have two sets of runners one for smooth and the other for rough ice The standing rigging of the Sea Flake is made of charcoal wire. The shoes on the runners average three feet in length, with 12 or 15 inches bearing.

Into this gets the adventurous voyager, clothed as for a journey in the Arctic regions:

"You will find his feet encased in heavy boots and the boots encased in fur lined overshoes. He will have on heavy woolen under clothing, heavy pantaloons and vest, the latter covered with a heavy woolen shirt. Then comes his short pilot cloth coat, and over all a thick, heavy fur overcoat. His ears will be covered with the patent mufflers, and on his head will rest a close-fitting fur cap, well pulled down, and enough fastened to hold it such. Add to the above comforts two huge buffalo robes, one to lie down, and the other to cover himself up with, and the passenger part of the ice boat is ready for a fifty-mile scud to Ann Arbor."

A sudden flaw of wind sends these swift-winged craft scudding along on one runner, and for the time the excitement is that of concentrated caution, but if properly ballasted no danger is to be apprehended. If the ice is smooth an overturn results in sending the passengers shooting out forty or fifty feet over the ice, and that and there are no great harm is done. An accident of this kind is here the less to be dreaded, as the ice is more serious. An account in a European paper, of ice boats on the Danube, remarks, however, that the passengers are frequently killed by the crews of some boats forbid the presence of interested men, either as passengers or able bodied navigators.

A race for a service of silver is shortly to take place at Poughkeepsie.

Richmond Gossip.

A lady correspondent of the New York *Citizen* writes a gossipy letter to that paper from Richmond, Virginia—in which reconstructed city she spent her Christmas—from which we make a couple of extracts. She says among other things:

A Virginian who does not use tobacco is an article, and a Richmond belle who is not completely satiated, bodily and sublimately, with its exquisite odor, cannot find dollars enough of tobacco with the soothing, after a-sending three months in this beautiful but rebellious city, I doubt not longer. A Fifth of January or Christmas day was enough to stupefy the strongest nose, and I almost wondered how a "Yan kee" Mixed odors of tobacco and bad whisky came from fine looking men's mouths, the fumes from some infernal region, and even the brick sidewalks were smeared and bespattered with tobacco until they were as filthy and disgusting as a stable floor.

There is just about as much genuine loyalty and love for the Union in the Old Dog Tray of Southerners as there is love in a Paddy's heart for a cornfield negro. Confederate soldiers have lots of Yankee blankets on their backs, but meet Yankees with real graciousness, and put some of the Southern chivalry to shame. Not but the woman is the last, best gift to man! the angelic delectable creature in crinoline! How the Yankee ladies are cursed and gnashed in contempt. They turn up their noses and giggle at the sight of a "Yankee." One morning an old woman was riding along in a one mule cart, filled with the ripest and finest peaches, at the sight of a "Yankee." One morning an old woman was riding along in a one mule cart, filled with the ripest and finest peaches, at the sight of a "Yankee," she suddenly put her feet hanging down over the front board. This specimen of chivalry was altogether beyond expression at the sight of some well-dressed ladies on the sidewalk whom she recognized as Yanks.

We find the following sensible article on the subject of safety-valves, in Saturday's St. Louis *Republican*:

"One of the principal reasons assigned by the Board of Supervising Inspectors for issuing the order compelling steamers to have 'locked' valves, was that there were instances where reckless engineers had loaded the regular safety-valves with more weight than was allowed by law. Now if such were the case we think the order could have been more efficiently guarded against by simply ordering a "Tell Tale" steam gauge to be placed in a conspicuous position in the cabin. The 'tell-tale,' in addition to the usual amount of carrying the amount of steam that is being used, has another finger which never moves backward except by the case being opened and turned back by hand. It will at once be seen that with this gauge locked by the Local Inspector, and the key retained, that should the Engineer, at any time, carry more steam than is allowed, he would at all times have the evidence exposed in full view, and upon a return to the port of departure, and a visit from the Inspector, would at once be met with the punishment prescribed by law.

JOHN BULL, while generally dining and whining the Yankee ocean yachtsmen, cannot help betraying a little nervousness. He feels that he is taken down on his own element, and speaking through the press, his chagrin is shown in frantic endeavors to incite English yachtsmen to similar deeds of adventure. The *Examiner*, cautious at sober sided as it usually is, exclaims, with evident mortified pride:

"After the American exploit, what will be the right of matches on the Queen's Course inside the Isle of Wight, or to Cowbrog, or to the Eddystone and back? The two last were considered brave ventures, but the Ocean race rendered them very small affairs."

They were very small affairs indeed. There is only one thing for John to do now, and that is make Prince Alfred, the sailor brother of "Wales," sail from Cowes to New York.

IT is supposed to be a strong peculiarity of the Latin races that they must have a name for everything, and that they generally hit upon very singular names—that is singular to us. In Paris for instance, every house and shop is dedicated to some one as a kind of patron saint. This passage has over the entrance in large letters, "The Passage of the Poor Devil." Yonder is a house dedicated to "Three Black Cats," another "To the Good Devil." Here is a street called "street of the Dry Tree," another "Street of the Bad Boy," "Street of the Holy Fathers," "Street of the Good Children," and here is another full of street lamps called "The Street to H—ll," which leads out in the "Infernal Gate." These are no more remarkable, though, than the names of many English taverns, and we think that in the matter of extraordinary, Drake and, to all appearances, objectlessly absurd nomenclature some parts of California where the miners were can beat them hollow.

THE IMPEACHMENT.—We regret more than we can express the movement started in the House of Representatives to impeach President Johnson. It will unsettle once more the foundations of society, and create a wide spread sense of uneasiness. The nation needs rest. It has been feverish long enough. And then, not extreme measures, are the great want of the hour. We trust the movement may yet be arrested by the sober second thought of Congress. In less than two years the question will come before the high court of the people, and it is better to defer it to that final settlement.—*Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.*

THE better classes of Chinese merchants are generally very loquacious when American topics are broached. It is the easiest matter in the world to draw them out to the full length of their Pigeon-English dialect by the mere mention of the Pacific Mail Company's China line of packet ships. Although they have long regarded America as a "Number one place, high up top side" of any other country, they have wondered why we have not branched out more in the way of colonizing as the Englishman is fond of doing. They anticipate great benefits from the comparatively close connection which the new line will give them with California.

L'Opinione Nationale, the known newspaper exponent of the policy of Prince Napoleon says Turkey is the common enemy of Europe.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

An accident indescribably horrible occurred during the late journey of the King and Queen of Portugal to meet the Queen of Spain. According to official arrangements, the royal train was to stop ten minutes at the Daimiel station, and no misfortune would have happened but for a reconnoitering locomotive. Whether on account of the new opening of the line, or of precautionary measure of another kind, the royal train was preceded a mile or so by a locomotive worked by men, whose duty it was to see that the line was quite safe. It was not to stop at Daimiel. Moreover, the weather was rather foggy. The warning whistle was heard several times, but the crowd, over confiding in the programme, remained at a stand still, spread about the line. Suddenly the locomotive emerged from the fog, proceeding at full speed; it had almost reached the throng when the conductor tried to stop it. It was in vain. The locomotive passed over the groups of living people with the velocity of lightning, smashing down all obstacles. Its noise was stifled by the cries of agony and terror uttered by the whole crowd, and when the confusion had diminished a little, seven corpses were found upon the line, among twenty-seven bodies still breathing, but horribly mutilated. The line had been scarcely cleared from the dead and the wounded before the royal train was in sight, and when it stopped at the station the wheels of the carriage were dyed in blood and spattered with human remains. The Queen was much affected by the sad occurrence, and when informed of its appalling details, her Majesty burst into tears, took an active part in the administering of the first succor, and gave 40,000 reals for the families of the victims. The Home Minister was telegraphed to at Madrid, and sent at once a special train conveying a staff of medical men and the required remedies and surgical apparatus.

One of the New York papers endeavors to make it appear that the population of the city is decreasing, and that the result is what it uniformly is—a decrease in the number of poor and more serious. An account in a European paper, of ice boats on the Danube, remarks, however, that the increase in the valuation of the property of the crews of some boats forbid the presence of interested men, either as passengers or able bodied navigators.

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RAILWAY MATTERS.

WESTERN CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.

The annual election of directors and officers of the Western Central Railroad Company took place on the 8th inst., and resulted as follows: Directors—J. J. Shryock, G. Church, John Dick, William Thorp, P. Church, A. W. Mumford, Meadville; G. R. Barrett, Samuel Wilson, W. G. Hamilton, Samuel Wann, J. S. King, P. W. Kennard, C. E. F. Blakesley, C. Day. The board organized by electing the following officers: President, J. J. Shryock; Vice President, G. R. Barrett; Treasurer, J. M. Dick; Secretary, J. C. Calhoun.

INCREASE OF CAPITAL STOCK.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the New Castle and Beaver Valley Railroad Company, resolutions were adopted increasing the capital stock of the Company to three hundred thousand dollars, as authorized by an act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, approved February 17, 1868, subject to the approval of the stockholders at the annual meeting, which was to be held at New Castle yesterday. It is proposed that one hundred thousad dollars of capital stock thus created be offered to the shareholders, at the rate of one share of new stock for each two shares of old stock held by each share holder; provided, that all stock not subscribed for within three months after the opening of the books shall be sold at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

The Bedford *Inquirer* asks what does the Southern Pennsylvania and Connellsville Railroad Company intend to do, and says: "This company called a meeting on the 19th of December last, to take into consideration the acceptation or rejection of the legislative act of April 1, 1868, but from that day to this there has not been a syllable expressing the result of their action through the columns of any of the numerous papers interested in the construction of this road. We have learned privately that they resolved to accept the legislation spoken of, but we cannot comprehend why their action has been kept from the public. Do they propose to ask for another extension? Do they intend to spring another bill upon the Legislature granting them eight years to complete it in? We caution our members against trickery. There is certainly a 'Bill Arp' somewhere, or why this underhand way of doing business. Be on your guard, gentlemen, and see that the rights of the people are not trampled upon."

BREVITIES.

London supports 100,000 cabmen, and 5,000 omnibus drivers.

Four thousand and eighty eight boats arrived at Cairo in 1866.

The aggregate capital of the Boston banks is forty one millions.

A man in Norwich, Connecticut, bitten by a dog, obtained $800 damages.

The Philadelphia papers are in an agony of apprehension lest the Congressional Investigating Committee, on the burning of the Ironsides should take the Navy Yard away from League Island.

The sale of the *Riverside Magazine* of the first issue is stated at 30,000 copies.

A gentleman in Elizabeth is possessor of the pistol with which Colonel Burr killed Hamilton.

Bennington, Vermont, has a new water fountain which plays to the height of one hundred and fifteen feet.

Hot advices the Baltimore young ladies to bring their spoons with them to his culinary lectures.

The reception of Speaker Colfax was of the Western type, decidedly free and easy. Every one went who wanted to go, and while rooms were arrayed in full evening dress, others wore their usual attire, and appeared to be perfectly at home. Some came in boots, and shapes better suited for the street or for the cars than for a saloon.

The Common Council of London voted public money to immortalize themselves in the shape of their own pictures in Guildhall, but they only had to pay for half cost of their own pockets.

Dolls in Paris are a great institution, and the stores where they are sold among the most attractive of sights. The dolls—always arranged in groups in the windows, representing tableaux of larger life; for instance, before a pretty and perfectly made piano twelve inches long, sits a pretty doll girl of eighteen, her expression is life like, her dress of the richest material, and her hair in the style and grace of reality, she has a minute little diamond ring on her finger, and little ear rings and breast pin complete. Behind her, stands a gentleman doll, holding the music sheet, and singing; he is complete in fashion, and looks as real live a fellow. In another place, before a little dressing table, stands a doll in the act of brushing her hair; her dressing case stands open, and you see all those little trinkets which dressy ladies delight in. She has on a delicate pair of silk slippers, while her dainty shoes are just outside the door, under the table. Her wardrobe is open, and you can see she has a large supply of the finest lines with elaborate lace work all in miniature. Upon the bed are spread numerous dresses, of all kinds and materials. And thus you will see in a small space all the principal articles of this doll world in shop windows.

The most strenuous efforts are being made by the proprietors of the lager-beer saloons in New York to secure the total repeal of the ordinances compelling the girls who are employed in

Daily Commercial

THE CLOSING SCENE.

owing by T. Buchanan Read, is pronounced stinguisher Review to be unquestionably the rticus poem ever written :

a sober realms of lifeless trees
et year inhaled the dreamy air,
tinged copse in his honor'd ease,
il the fields are lying brown and bare.

barns looking from their hazy hills,
dun waters widening miles
i the air a greeting to the mills,
all thunder of alternate tills.

were mellowed, and all sounds subdued,
s seemed farther and the steam sang low;
ean the distant woodman hewed
ter log with many a muffled blow.

tled forests, sere while armed with gold,
anners bright with every martial hue,
l like some sad beaten host of old,
who after battle's rumor'd blue.

e wings the vulture tried his flight;
e scarce heard his sighing mate's complaint
a stately drooping in the light,
age church vane seemed to pale and faint.

nel cock upon the hill side crew—
rice—and all was stiller than before;
some roving warder blew
n horn, and then was heard no more.

t the jay within the elm's tall crest;
ruliosa in slow round her unfledged young;
the glide lying her waiting nest,
y light wind like a conscr sawing.

ng the noisy marties of the eaves,
swallows circling ever near—
e, as the rustle blithe fell eves,
harvest and a plenteous year,

ery bird that waked the vernal float,
he west slipt other from its wing at morn:
he reaper—fine rosy east,
was sunless, sinuity and forlorn.

mount the stubble, piped the quail;
akedthe crow through all the dreary gloom;
the saint drumming in the aisle:
ake to the distant cottage loom.

s no bud, no bloom upon the bowers;
lers wove their thin shrouds night by night;
e down the only ghost of flowers;
ly by—passed no scent—y out of sight.

this—in the most dreary air,
to the woodbine sheds round the porch
e leaves, as if the year stood there,
he floor with its inverted torch.

this—the center of the scene,
-haired matron, with motionless tread,
swift wheel, and with her joyless mien
s fate, and watched the flying thread.

ng sorrow. He had waked with her,
ed, and broke with her the silent crust,
dead leaves still she heard the stir
s fateful trailing in the dust.

her cheek was bright with sunny bloom,
istry sun-kissed, and she gave her all,
war tossed he her cradle plume—
the sword to rust upon the wall.

bel sword, but not the hand that drew
ked for liberty the dying blow,
who his sire and the country true,
ld the ranks of the invading foe.

, not loud, the droning wheel went on,
e low murmur of a hive at noon;
t not long, the memory of the gone
d through her lips a sad and tuneless tune

e thread was snapped her head was bowed;
oped the distaff through her hands to rest;
ng neighbors smoothed her careful shroud,
eath and winter crowned the autumn scene.

A Queer Patient.

Paris correspondent of the Philadelphia *Dispatch* gives the following account of a dilemma a celebrated doctor placed in recently :

emoine is one of the most courtly and able of the physicians here whose services have won them fortune and fame. Some days ago he was called upon by a fine, ruddy personage, who certainly looked in no individual need of the distinguished doctor's advice; the latter, too, in effo.t to reassure his embarrassed visitor addressed him with his usual polite and condescension :

"Monsieur, I am the proprietor of a theatre," said the square shouldered gentleman, "and one of my children is sick—I am sorry to say, dangerously ill. Of what nature is the disease?"

"You have ran a splinter into his thigh; it is deeply, Monsieur, but I am rich enough to get him well."

"Very well, my man," replied the doctor, unable to suppress a smile at the simplicity of his visitor, "we will talk of that while. Tell me exactly what is the matter with your child?"

"Monsieur, this splinter has festered in the thigh, and he will let no one touch it; he is headstrong—for all he is very gentle. He is necessary, I know, to perform the operation, but he is so violent and strong about it."

"I've his violence to me. How old is he?"

"Four years only. But I am afraid he will die or scratch you if you attempt to touch it. You must administer chloroform?"

"Not at all, my good man. Your child will be very dangerous in the exercise of his temper, if he is only four years old."

"Then he is large for his age—"

"No; I will go with you to see your child. It were folly to administer chloroform in such a case."

"Then, monsieur, you do not know him as I," continued the man importunately. "I pray, I beseech you, to take the chloroform all the same, in case you may need it."

Despite the anxieties of the nervous father, Lemoine carried with him the means of anæsthetic, and after a short drive in a *voiture*, arrived at the house of the manager. Entering a room adjoining the exhibition arena, which was lighted by a dim and tallow stable, the doctor looked around for the suffering patient.

"You have put him in the stars, doctor, and the poor fellow would be undisturbed by the performance. Ascend with me, then."

They mounted a half ladder, half stairway, and then a kind of loft. The doctor having passed behind him, quickly locked it. The manager turning in some surprise at the strange proceeding to his conductor, was saluted with a low growl from the brute in the corner of the room. He then fixed his attention upon the source of this sudden and decided a full grown lion slowly approaching them, with that unquestionably wicked and menacing look upon his countenance! The *dompteur* grew pale; and when he addressed a few words of brute-language to the animal, his voice trembled. The doctor was not only very pale, but was covered with a cold sweat.

"For God's sake, doctor, be quick!" whispered the beast-tamer, hoarsely; "he will be on us directly."

And showing his white teeth, the lion was slowly crouched in that attitude which the physician had so often observed the same animal to assume, preparatory to a spring, in the Jardin des Plants. He had need then of self-possession, and, collecting all his energies, he dashed the chloroform which he held in the animal's face. The latter rose, and in a second after, began to stagger under the effects of the drug. This seemed a still further administration of chloroform he was finally stretched powerless across them. The operation required was soon made upon the wound, and the proper preparatives applied.

"Then doctor nor showman spoke a word until they had descended the steps, stood safely in the room below.

"Monsieur," said the *dompteur*, "you have saved, by your wonderful presence of mind, a life whose value is incalculable to me. Permit me to give you your fee."

"No, no—to summon some other member of the profession."

Atmospheric Influence Upon Fish.

From the nature of the element in which they live, we know but little of the habits and economy of fish. They are quite various, and many of the species prey indiscriminately upon everything that is eatable; and, in turn, man preys upon them. Undoubtedly they are affected by atmospheric changes, and the inherent difference existing between them and other living creatures, whose pursuit and habits are made the object of amusement, deserves careful attention and study. A correspondent of the London *Field* writes:

"We all know that the conformation of fishes, their method of procreation, their habits, their times and manner of feeding, also differ very widely indeed from that of birds and beasts. Now we have much better facility for observing the habits of the latter, by reason that we breathe the same atmosphere, we can follow them to their hiding places, watch their ins and outs, and so far study their various instincts, as enable us at all times and in all weather to succeed in their capture, and know that they must have a regular and constant supply of food, what kind of results them, and that they will invariably be found in search of this, and as readily take it when found. We have not, however, even the same facility for discovering the habits of fishes. We can follow the river and capture them with a certain line; we go again, weather and water apparently the same; we offer them the same lure, they refuse it in toto, and not a fish be found feeding thereon, and may be captured more or less by the experienced fisherman. That fish, like birds or animals, may be acted upon in a way that although more highly organized have a notion of, I readily admit, very likely this is wisely ordered for their preservation; but I am strongly inclined to think that their so-called capriciousness, is less the direct atmospheric action than the influence of sufficient food to tempt them. For some years ago, when fly-fishing on a rather cold day in the month of April, a bright morning, with no success, was followed by a heavy snow storm in the afternoon, which lasted some time. Soon after the snow began to fall they rose fast and furiously—a rise almost every cast—and a good dish of fish the result. Almost as soon as the snow ceased falling the fish ceased to rise. Since then I was with a friend out on the same stream, on a hot summer day; a low bright water, no sport, when suddenly a thunder storm came on with heavy rain. My friend sought shelter, I was about to do the same, when, observing a rise, I gave another cast—had a fish. The faster the rain poured, the faster the fish rose, and scarcely ever in so short a time have I caught so many fish. The rain cleared off; they ceased rising. My friend having missed the sport, said something not fit for ears polite about the capriciousness of the fish. Now, there was no capriciousness, nor forecast, nor direct atmospheric influence in the matter at all; the food was over or about water; the snow in the one instance, the rain in the other, beat down into the water sufficient to lure them to feed thereon; and did we sufficiently notice, should we not find that what we call forecasting in fishes is nothing more than this—that some peculiar state of the atmosphere previous to rain, prevents the production of their food in sufficient quantities to lure them from their holds to feed? more particularly as we know, that they can exist without any solid food for a much longer period than the denizens of the land, without suffering much in condition thereby.

Life in China.

There is a well-known Greek story of a penniless man who, going out with a rope in his hand to hang himself, found a purse of money, which induced him to throw the rope away, whereas the owner of the purse, coming back to look for his property and finding only the rope instead, straightway hanged himself.

A still more curious tale of a similar kind is told by the China papers. In the native city of Shanghae, the parents of a young lady lately married, having fallen into distressed circumstances, applied to her for assistance, and her husband allowed her to give them a coat for the purpose of being pawned. The daughter, however, being anxious to render further aid to her husband's knowledge, secreted sixteen dollars in the pockets of the coat.

The old man did not discover this, and took it to a pawnbroker, who, noticing the money on enfolding the garments, kept his own counsel, and quietly advanced two dollars. Soon after the husband discovered that his wife had given the sixteen dollars to her father, and made so much noise about it that the young lady disposed of herself by hanging. In this way the news of the robbery committed by the pawnbroker became known to the parents, and the old mother took the matter so much to heart that she poisoned herself with opium. Lastly the pawnbroker, getting alarmed on hearing that his dishonesty had already caused two deaths, drowned himself in a well. This story is very characteristic of the Chinese feelings in regard to life, and similar incidents not unfrequently occur. Some years ago, for instance, an accomplished young lady at Canton, who had been unfortunately married to a coarse and stupid husband, was bewailing her fate to a party of sisters and female cousins, and declared her intention of committing suicide.

On this the other young ladies declared that, since such was married life, they would die together, and walking into a fish pond, deliberately drowned themselves. Again, three men imprisoned in Hong Kong on a charge of piracy determined to make away with themselves rather than have the bother of a trial. At some height in the cell where they were imprisoned was a small window guarded by two iron bars, and the problem which these worthies had to solve was how three of them were to be hanged upon the two bars. From the positions in which they were found in the morning it would seem that the third man had assisted the two others in hanging themselves from the bars by their tails; that then he had cut down one of them by gnawing through the tail with his teeth, and using the dead body as a stool, afterward kicked over, he had contrived to suspend himself. All this, too, was done so quietly as not to attract the notice of a sentry who was pacing outside beneath the window.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

"Kiss my Wife or Fight me"—An Ossulatory Alternative.

There are few married men who are not averse to seeing their wifes kissed, but an exchange relates the particulars of a case in which a newly wedded Benedict felt himself insulted because his wife wasn't kissed. The bridegroom in question was a stalwart young rustic, who was known as a formidable operator in "the fancy." His bride was a beautiful and blooming young country girl, only sixteen years of age, and the twain were at a party, where a number of young fellows were displaying themselves in the good old fashioned pawn-playing style. Every girl in the room was called out and kissed except B., the beautiful young bride adding, that although there was not a youngster present who was not dying to taste her lips, they were restrained by the presence of her brand-new husband, who took a sulking part in the party with a sullen look of dissatisfaction. They mistook the cause, however, for suddenly he expressed himself. Rolling up his sleeves he stepped into the middle of the room, and in a tone of voice that secured attention, said: "Gentlemen, I have been noticing how things have been working here for some time, and I ain't half satisfied. I don't want to raise a fuss, but—" "What's the matter, John?" inquired half a dozen voices. "What do you mean? Have I done anything to hurt your feelings?" "Yes, you have; all of you have hurt my feelings, and I've just got this to say about it. Here's every girl in the room has been kissed three to six dozen times apiece, and there's my wife, who I consider as likely as any of them, has not had a single one to-night; and I just tell you now, if she don't not get as many kisses the balance of the night as any gal in the room, the man that slights her has got me to fight—that's all. Now go ahead with your play." Mr. Brann was slighted during the balance of the evening we did not know it. As for ourself, we know that John had no fault to find with us individually, for any neglect on our part.

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Agent for the sale of Cornwall, Donaghmore, Duncannon, Josephine, Isabella, Stanhope, Glendon, and other brands of Anthracite, Youghiogheny Coke and Gilmore's C. B. Charcoal Pig Irons. Consignments and orders respectfully solicited. 1y28

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W. A. M'CLURG, 57 HAND ST.

ALWAYS ON HAND, PRINTED TO ORDER, the BEST PAPER BAGS made for Flour, Buckwheat and Groceries. Also,

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no22-tf

A FULL STOCK OF

CANNED FRUITS,

In store and for sale by

COOK BROS. & CO.,

345 Liberty street.

CARPETS.

WOOLEN DRUGGETS

AND

CRUMB CLOTHS.

We have just opened a splendid stock of

English Woolen Druggets,

2¼, 2 3-4, 3¼ and 3¾ YARDS WIDE, AND

BORDERED CRUMB CLOTHS,

2¾ by 3 yards, 3 by 3¾ yards, 3 by 4 yards, and 3¾ by 4 yards, which we offer at

VERY LOW PRICES.

McFARLAND & COLLINS,

Nos. 71 and 73 FIFTH STREET,

Next House to U. S. Custom House and Postoffice, no22-ood&*

SOMETHING NEW.

PATENT SHADE ROLLER,

FOR

WINDOWS, SKYLIGHTS,
AWNINGS, VESTIBULES,
CARRIAGES, &c., &c.

NEW DRUGGETS

FELTINGS, ROBES,

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JUST FROM EUROPE. CHOICE STOCK OF

CHEAP CARPETS,

OIL CLOTHS, &C., AT

C. M'CLINTOCK & CO.'S,

23 FIFTH STREET.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

BOOTS, SHOES

AND

Gaiters,

SELLING OFF AT

GREATLY REDUCED PRICES,

AT

THOS. H. PHELPS',

46 SMITHFIELD STREET,

Between Third and Fourth streets.

GENTLEMAN'S CALF BOOTS

AND CONGRESS GAITERS.

A full and complete assortment constantly on hand of my own manufacture, and will be sold at reasonable prices.

S. DALZELL,

No. 138 Smithfield st., fourth door from Virgin Alley

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W. D. BURKAM & CO,

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CHICAGO, ILLS.

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PROMPTLY FILLED.

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IN EASTERN AND WESTERN

PRODUCE,

FLOUR, BARLEY, RYE,
OATS, TIMOTHY SEED,
POTATOES, APPLES, ONIONS,
BUTTER, CHEESE, LARD, &c.

No. 337 LIBERTY ST.

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L. H. VOIGT & CO.,

PRODUCE AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

No. 257 Liberty street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Receive and sell all kinds of COUNTRY PRODUCE. Purchase on orders at the lowest Market Price, all kinds of Pittsburgh Manufactured Goods, and every description of Merchandise.

J. BLAIR.....A. WOODS.

BLAIR & WOODS,

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The Daily Commercial

CITY MATTERS.

THE VIGILANT STREAMER.—The President of the Vigilant Fire Company desires us to state that the old steamer of that Company will not be given in part payment for the new steamer now being built at the Amoskeag Works, New Hampshire, as we had it in yesterday's issue.

LECTURE.—The Rev. Col. John B. Clark, of Allegheny City, will deliver a lecture in the United Presbyterian Church at Mount Vernon, near North Washington, Butler county, on Monday evening, 21st inst., Subject—"National Reconstruction." The proceeds will be devoted to the payment of the erection of the new church for the Mount Vernon congregation.

RELEASED ON BAIL.—Isaiah Elsbery, who was committed to jail several days since by Alderman Butler, on a charge of abandonment, was released yesterday, having entered bail to appear at court and answer. John Porter, who was committed by acting Mayor Morrow, on a charge of assault and battery, was also released.

RECEIPTS AT ALLEGHENY WHARF.—The following is a statement of the revenue derived from the Allegheny City Wharf during the year 1866:

From wharves	$2,380 00
From bark	185 70
Total	$2,565 70
Average yearly amount paid in for four previous years	$1,000 08

PARDONED.—Henry Little, who was convicted at the last term of the United States District Court held in this city, of passing a ten-dollar counterfeit note on a tavern keeper on Smithfield street and sentenced to a term of imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary, has been pardoned by the President. Little is a mere boy, being but sixteen years of age, and had enjoyed an excellent reputation previous to his arrest on the charge of which he was convicted.

DR. BELLOWS'S LECTURE—THROUGH TWO-THIRDS XIX. CENTURY.—This gentleman, to whom the credit of the conception of the great Sanitary Commission is due, and who, during the whole war, held the office of President of that great and noble body, lectures to-night at the Academy of Music. Though we have not had the pleasure of hearing him before in this city, yet no man in the country exerts a wider influence in his peculiar sphere. The enlightened zeal with which he has long advocated wise measures of social reform, his extended reputation as an orator, and his rare and extraordinary practical sagacity and wisdom, originated, organized and carried into vigorous action, through a bloody war, the Sanitary Commission, which for the noble good it effected, never has been paralleled in the history of our race. We trust that, independent of the gentleman's great abilities as a lecturer, the citizens will, by their presence, welcome him as the soldiers' great friend in the war for the Union.

Patents Granted.

Among the patents issued from the United States Patent Office for the week ending January 8th, was the following to persons residing in this county:

Bernard Battile, of Pittsburgh, assignor to Daniel Coyle, of Soho, for improved composition for intriecating journals.]

W. S. Cowell and F. Yeazle, of Pittsburgh, for improvement in stove machines.

George Gray, of Temperanceville, for improved artificial fuel.

Alexander, Joon and Thomas McKenna, of Pittsburgh, for improvement in burning coke.

W. Dewees Wood, of McKeesport, for improved process of treating cleaned or scaled iron

Police Items.

BEFORE ALDERMAN DONALDSON.—Ellis Dumont appeared yesterday before Alderman Donaldson and lodged complaint against Mrs. Close, charging her with malicious mischief. Effie resides in the third story of the house on Third street, and alleges that Mrs. Close did maliciously upset a stove and roll it down the stairway, badly smashing it. A warrant was placed in an officer's hands, but the accused has not yet been arrested.

BEFORE JUSTICE LIPPERT.—John Maloney was charged before Justice Lippert, of Pitt township, with maliciously mischief in having, some two weeks ago, broken a large window pane in the tobacco store of George Stoudt, on Pennsylvania avenue. Mr. Stoudt not desiring to prosecute, Wildrew the charge upon Maloney paying the value of the window and paying the costs in the case.

The Late Professor Dickson.

The impression made in this community by the recent death of Professor W. W. Dickson, of the Pittsburgh High School, is an evidence that men are not graded here with exclusive reference to their prominence in the commercial world. And we will scarcely make a pause in its busy activities, and spare a little time to weigh the significance of such an event. Seldom does the community lose in the death of any one man so large a measure of sturdy, manly, Christian principle, of earnestness of purpose in imparting to others whatever of good he had at command, and of gifts, intellectual and moral, of substantial value to be thus dispensed, as in the death of Professor Dickson.

He has left many a friend who would not begrudge a tear to wet the sod that shall cover him, or, long hence, to bedew the turf-clad mound that shall bloom upon his resting place. In the stamp of his own high and strong character he which he has left upon the minds and heart of so many of our young men, there are assured tokens that kind remembrance and his unseen yet real influence that are worth more than the praise of princely legacies.

His funeral was attended yesterday from his late residence on Webster street.

Annual Election of Directors of Insurance Companies.

The stockholders of the several Insurance Companies of this city assembled yesterday afternoon and elected directors to serve for the year 1867. Below will be found the result of the elections:

Allegheny—John Irwin, Jr, John D McCord, C G Hussey, Harvey Childs, Dan J Hawkinson, Wm Dean, Francis Sellers Charles Hays, Robert H Davis, B L Fahnestock, George D McGrew, W H Everson.

Peoples'—William Phillips, John Watt, John E Parke, Charles Lockhart, John Irwin, Jr, Wm Kunkle, C H Love, Samuel P Shriver, James D Verner, Charles Artuckle, John F Kirkpatrick, Captain James Miller, Frank C Sellers.

Manufacturers and Merchants—James I Bennett, A E W Painter, John W Chalfant, Robert Lea, Isaiah Dickey, C C Pershing, J William Walker, Mark W Watson, R G Bushnell, John Wilson, Henry A Weaver, W A Reed, Joseph Walton.

Boatman's Fire and Marine—Capt R C Gray, D E Park, James Ross, H W Oliver, Jr, Capt Jake Hill, Henry Lloyd, James H Wright, Jno Graff, Capt Jno P Smith, F M Gordon, N J Bigley, David Crawford.

Cash—R H King, JohnF Jennings, N J Bigley, Daniel Wallace, Jake Hill, Thomas Donnelly, H W Oliver, Jr, S H Hartman, Samuel McClintock, John S Willock, Captain Madison Bailey, Alexander Chambers, James M. Bailey.

German—C Hoveler, F Haberman, Ed de Barenne, H Vogele, C Barchfeld, H E White, Joseph Lang, L Morgenstern, John Vogel, Geo Seyboldt, A Goetzinger, Chas F. Schwarz.

National, Allegheny—W W Martin, A H English, Robert Lea, O H P Williams, John Brown, Jr, John A Myler, C C Boyle, Joseph Myers, George Gerst, James L Graham, John Thompson, James Lockhart.

Pittsburgh Facilities for Education.

It is not our present purpose to enumerate or describe the many noble institutions of learning in this city and vicinity. That would be interesting and valuable reading doubtless, but could not be compassed in an ordinary article.

We merely design to call attention to the fact that our home facilities are equal, both as to capacity and grade, to the requirements of all classes, even the most enlightened and ambitious of our people. To both sexes are offered the most advanced means of cultivating the mind in all branches of study. The Western Pennsylvania Military Academy, at Evergreen, near this city—the latest important institution established here, completed the list as to variety, and now we may safely assume that there remains no excuse for our sons and daughters being educated elsewhere than at home. Parents cannot well appreciate the advantage of a home education too highly.

We are led to these remarks more particularly by way of mentioning the claims of the Western Pennsylvania Military Academy, as it is the nearest institution here, and exhibits no small amount of enterprise on the part of the President, Com. J. F. Lehmann. This gentleman is well known as an able instructor in all the branches of study in this country, and, having thoroughly at home in letters, science and languages, as well as a military officer of no recently made reputation.

This gentleman, as we are credibly informed, from his love for the art of teaching, to which he is especially adapted, has relinquished other lucrative pursuits and established the Academy at Evergreen, to which he wishes in future to devote his time and abilities. Since the opening of the Academy, the support by the public has probably been as equal to what might have been expected in an entirely new enterprise, but yet, we apprehend, not what Pittsburgh and vicinity should afford to so praiseworthy and creditable an undertaking. The city, in this instance, is the party served, and we should be glad to know that the obligation was acknowledged to the extent of every pupil who is now sent abroad for education in no way superior to that offered at home. Although our advertising columns state particulars in a business way, yet we take pleasure in referring here that the address, in applying for circulars or other information, is Col. T F. Lehmann, box 485, Allegheny P. O., or W. A. Shinn, No. 120 Fourth street, Pittsburgh.

Public Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—A large and intelligent audience witnessed the performance of Mr. S. L. Davenport's interesting play, "St. Marc, the Soldier of Fortune," last evening. The performance was a delightful one throughout, Mr. Davenport's admirable impersonation of "St. Marc" being ably supported by the performances of Miss Waite, Mr. Leak, Mr. Crossen, and the others in the cast. To-night, Mr. Davenport will appear as Hamlet, in which character he is really excellent

THEATER.—The new French sensation drama, "The Dance of Death," was presented for the first time last night, and was well received. The most attractive part of the performance is the appearance of the ballet troupe. There are no less than three pleasing ballets in this piece, and the troupe, being composed of handsome and attractive young ladies, have an excellent opportunity to display their charms and terpsichorean abilities.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Mr. O. Hoym, the Director of the New York Stadt Theater, made his appearance at this place last evening, as Hamlet, and acquitted himself most creditably. He was ably supported by the company attached to the German Theater. This evening Mr. Hoym will appear as Don Cesar de Bazan. He is an excellent artiste, and attracts large and intelligent audiences.

VARIETIES.—Mr. McFarland continues to be the star at this place. Miss Kate Partington is also one of the most attractive performers here, and, all combined, the company is a powerful one.

MASONIC HALL.—Father Kemp's old Folks, the old original troupe, with Mrs. Emma Nichols, commenced their entertainments at Masonic Hall last evening. They were greeted by a fair-sized audience, but not such as they would have had, were it not for Mr. Taylor's lecture. Their songs were, many of them, fresh and inspiriting, and sufficiently varied to suit all tastes. They do not confine themselves exclusively to the songs of the olden time, but intersperse the grand old hymns and choruses with songs of more modern and popular character. The entertainment was a delightful one, as those present testified by generous and well-deserved applause. They give their second concert this evening.

REFINERS' ASSOCIATION.

Special Meeting—Petition to Congress to Make it a Penal Offence to Sell Oil Under 110 Degrees Fire Test—Important Action.

A special meeting of the Pittsburgh Petroleum Refiners' Association was held on Saturday afternoon, at the Board of Trade Rooms. In the absence of the President, R. S. Waring, Esq., was called to preside.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting to be to take action in regard to the proposed State Inspection Law for oil; also, in regard to the increased rate of freights demanded by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

On motion, a committee of three, consisting of Messrs. Morgan, Lockhart and Davis, were appointed to proceed to Harrisburg to attend to the interest of the refiners.

The following resolution was offered:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take steps to have a law, in relation to the inspection of oil, passed in Congress, so that there may be uniformity throughout the country.

The duties arising out of the above resolution were added to the duties of the committee appointed to go to Harrisburg.

A resolution was offered providing that a committee be appointed to gather facts relative to the reduction of freights on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad; also, to confer with said company on the subject. The resolution was adopted, and the following committee appointed: Messrs. Lockhart, Morgan and Hutchinson, of Pittsburgh; Messrs. Mc Warden, H. B. King and A. H. Slack, of Philadelphia.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Freights, including Messrs. Tack, King and Warden, of Philadelphia, shall be requested to consider the great question of gauge—whether the present method had better be continued, or that the contents of barrels shall be arrived at by weight; and that they shall be authorized to visit the City of Washington City, and endeavor to have the proper laws to ensure uniform gauge, passed; and that they shall endeavor to have a law passed making it a penal offense for any person to sell any oil under one hundred and ten degrees (110°) fire test for home consumption.

On motion, a committee consisting of Messrs. Tack and Burke, were appointed to push forward the movement, started by Messrs. Tack and Thurston, to have the oil of Pennsylvania exhibited at the great Paris Universal Exposition.

It was announced that some seven hundred collars had been subscribed by the refiners for the object, and those refiners wishing to exhibit oil at the Exposition, should call upon the Tack Brothers, on Duquesne Way.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association are due and hereby tendered to the Merchant's' National Telegraph Company, and to the Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Company of the United States, for their energy in building their lines, thereby affording much needed and increased telegraphic facilities; that we recommend them to the public as worthy of their patronage, and heartily concur in the resolutions passed by the Board of Trade at their meeting of January 9th, in reference to the Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Company of the United States.

The Association then adjourned.

RAILROAD MEETINGS.

Annual Election for Officers of the Pittsburgh and Steubenville, and the Charters Valley Railroad Companies.

PITTSBURGH AND STEUBENVILLE RAILROAD.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Company was held yesterday morning, at the office of the Company, No. 77 Fourth street, this city, when the annual election for officers, to serve for the ensuing year, 1867, took place. The election resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen as officers:

President—William Phillips.

DIRECTORS.

John H Shoenberger,	Max E. Moorhead.
William Holmes,	Abraham S. Nicholson,
Samuel Black,	Joseph Woodwell,
William B. Brown,	Manfield B Brown,
Joseph Bihlman,	Murray Clark,
Michael O'Hara,	John N. McDonald.

In the election of Col. Phillips as President the company have made an excellent choice. He is a shrewd, energetic business man, and the interests of the company will be well attended to by him. This company have leased their line to the Western Transportation Company, from whom they receive forty per cent. of the net earnings. The road is now doing a good business.

CHARTIERS VALLEY RAILROAD.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Chartiers Valley Railroad Company was also held yesterday afternoon, at the same place. The annual election for directors to serve for the year 1867, took place, and resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen:

Hon. J. K. Moorhead,	Joshua Rhodes,
C. L. Wm. Irwin,	David F. Morgan.
James McAuley,	Jacob Painter,
William R. Brown,	

The Board of Directors elect appoint the officers for the Company. The line of this road runs along the Valley of Chartiers Creek, extending from Pittsburgh to Washington, Pa., and is yet in an incomplete state. The road was sold by sold at sheriff's sale, in 1865, for the sum of forty seven thousand dollars, and was purchased by Wm. J. Howard, Esq., Solicitor for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

Court Proceedings.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—Before Judge Sterrett.

This Court met yesterday morning at ten o'clock, when the following business was transacted:

Robert Hays vs. William Thompson. This is an action for ejectment. The plaintiff had conveyed a tract of land in Jefferson township to defendant's wife, and the deed contained a condition for the payment of an annuity to plaintiff. This condition, however, was neglected, was not complied with. The jury rendered a verdict of six cents damages, to be released on payment of $1,238 13 principal due, with interest from January 1st, 1867, payable April 1st, 1868.

Chas Rowan's Executors vs. Gullet and Applegate. This is an action on two promissory notes against defendants. The defense plead the statute of limitation, and the jury rendered a verdict in their favor.

A rule was granted on Christ. Graff and Thomas Gamble, defaulting jurors, to show cause why attachment should not issue against them.

The following rule was granted and argued:

Mary R. Thorn vs. Dr. R. B. Simpson's administrators. Verdict for the plaintiff in the sum of $538 66.

DISTRICT COURT.—Before Judge Hampton.

The case of Wells vs. Shaffer was concluded at noon yesterday, when the jury retired, but they had not concluded upon a verdict at adjournment.

The next case taken up was that of Emma Wells vs. Dr. John E. Shaffer. Action to recover one-twelfth part of a tract of land in Elizabeth township, now held by defendant. A special verdict for the plaintiff was rendered by the jury, subject to the decision of the Court on reserved question of law.

COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS.—Before Judge Stowe.

The case of Michael Sullivan, indicted for committing an indecent assault upon Maggie Mitchell, at Sewickley, some months ago, consumed the attention of this court yesterday, and is still on trial.

Allegheny Councils—Caucus Nominations for City Officers.

The Allegheny Councils met in caucus last evening in the Select Council Chamber, for the purpose of choosing candidates for the various city offices. The meeting was called to order by James McBrier, Esq., taking the chair, and appointing Mr. J. F Slagle, Secretary. The following nominations were then made:

Controller—R. B. Francis.
Treasurer—D. Macferron.
Street Commissioner—Thomas Megraw.
Superintendent of Water Works—George N. Miller.
Clerk of Markets—Duncan Dallas.
Weigh Master at Second Ward Scales—Hugh Lartiner.
Wharf Matter—George Hutchinson.
Recording Regulator—No nomination.
Coal Inspector and Measurer of Wood and Bark—Alex. Maxwell.
Clerk of Common Council—R. Dilworth.
City Solicitor—J. S. McCombs.
Assessor of City Taxes—R. R. Ray.
Assessor of Water Rents—Abraham Davis.
Janitor of City Hall—Joseph Marshall.
Board Measurers—First Ward, Robert Waite; Second Ward, Wm Murdoch; Third Ward, Jos. H. Campbell; Fourth Ward, Andrew Davidson.
Official Papers in the English Language—*Dispatch* and *Gazette*.
Official Paper in the German Language—*Freiheits Freund*.

Trial List for This Day.

The following lists will be taken up in the District Court and Court of Common Pleas to-day:

DISTRICT COURT.

No. 67. Ardesco Oil Company vs. Tack, Bro. & Co.
No. 72. Foster & Co. vs. Coleman.
No. 77. Thompson et al. vs. Thompson.
No. 78. Fisher vs. Gillespie & Mitchell.
No. 80. Cousins vs. Barnes.
No. 81. Cheesborough vs. Pennsylvania Insurance Company.
No. 83. Thompson vs. Hunsberger.
No. 84. Birdsall vs. Smith et al. vs. Briggs.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

No. 264. Wallace vs. Little.
No. 265. Wallace vs. Little, et. al.
No. 213. Miller vs. Leis.
No. 218. Sharp vs. Carr.
No. 219. Bough vs. Gardner
No. 220. Bough vs. Gardner.
No. 221. Leech vs. Lemer, et. ux.
No. 222. Cornell vs. Same.
No. 223. Myers vs. Schunk.
No. 226. Kerr vs. Young.

Horses and Sled Stolen in East Liberty.

On last Saturday evening, George McCombs, of East Liberty, had his sled and two horses taken from the front door of the hotels in East Liberty, by a young man, whom he was slightly acquainted with. The young man drove the sled away, saying to some person standing by that he wished to take home from one of the stores a few articles, and would return in a few moments. Mr. McCall waited in vain for the return of his team, he came to the city and put Sunday morning, since which time no trace has been found of them. The team consists of a black horse and bay mare, with foal. The sled had a blue bed on it, made out of a peddling wagon box. Mr. McCombs offers a liberal reward for the recovery of his property, and efficient service will be rendered by the practical efforts of Constable Dallas, who has the matter in charge, together with a slight relaxation in the gold premium, has a depressing effect on the money market, and prices since last Tuesday. Business has been restricted to the current wants of the trade, and the purchases very generally manifest a good deal of concern in regard to the future and an unwillingness to anticipate. It is probable that we shall witness an active revival of trade during the spring months, and that prices will be governed by the practical efforts of Congress. Increased stringency in the money market, together with a slight relaxation in the gold premium, would have